

THE
LIBRARY
JOURNAL

VOL. 54

MAY 1, 1929

No. 9



NEW OFFICES FOR A. L. A. HEADQUARTERS

THIRTY YEARS OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WILLIAM WARNER BISHOP

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LUCIA H. SANDERSON



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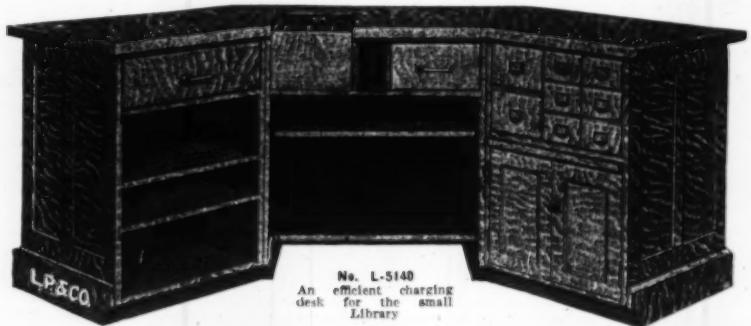
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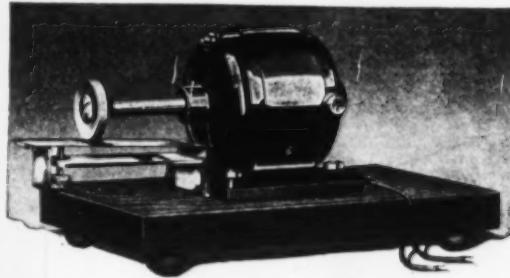
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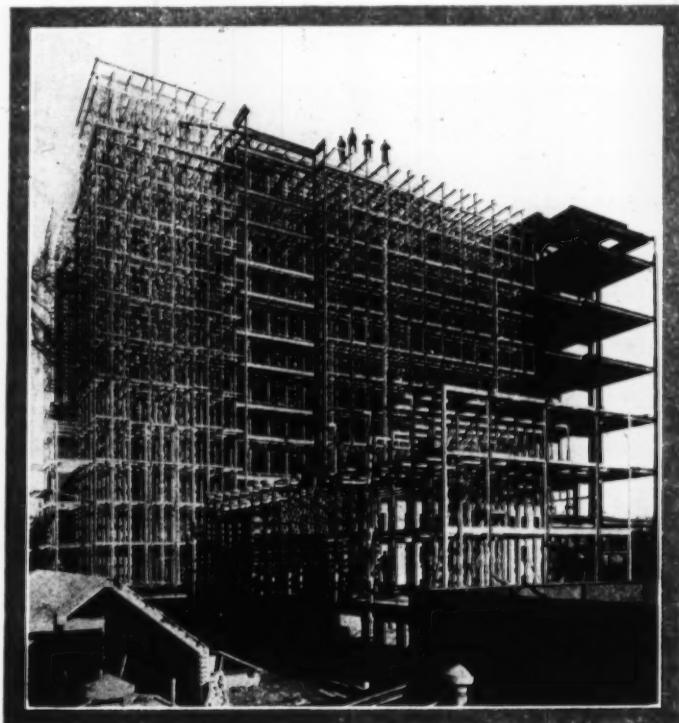
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New Offices for A. L. A. Headquarters

WHEN A. L. A. Headquarters moved into new offices at 520 N. Michigan Ave. on May first it made its third step toward a building of its own which will adequately house its multifarious and increasing activities. The new quarters afford 3000 square feet more of office space than in the former rooms on the ninth floor of the John Crerar Library Building, and at the same rental. This was made possible by the lowered office rentals in Chicago caused by the enormous amount of new building in the city.

For over thirty years after the American Library Association was organized in 1876, all its work, except its publishing activities, was conducted without headquarters offices and with no paid personnel, except for one or two brief periods. "Where the annually elected Secretary hung his hat was headquarters, and his compensation was a good conscience for having served well a worthy cause," according to George B. Utley of the Newberry Library, one-time A. L. A. Secretary, in his historical sketch of the Association published in 1926. "By 1909, however, the increase in membership

and some other fortunate circumstances made possible a modest start toward the establishment of permanent headquarters and the employment of a salaried executive. But even this frugal beginning could not have been made had it not been for the generosity of the Chicago Public Library, which for nearly fifteen years provided free, comfortable, and commodious quarters in its main building. Now, with a paid staff of over fifty, in expanded quarters, with a generous subsidy provided by the Carnegie Corporation, most fortunately bridging the critical period until an adequate endowment can be acquired, the functionings of the A. L. A. have attained a magnitude undreamed of by the pioneers of fifty years ago. But we are not, we trust, unmindful that the present measure of successful accomplishment is truly

due to the years of faithful, unselfish, and unremunerated service rendered by those whose names make up the honor roll of our Association."

Reminiscences of this modest period are embodied in the lively article by Forrest E.

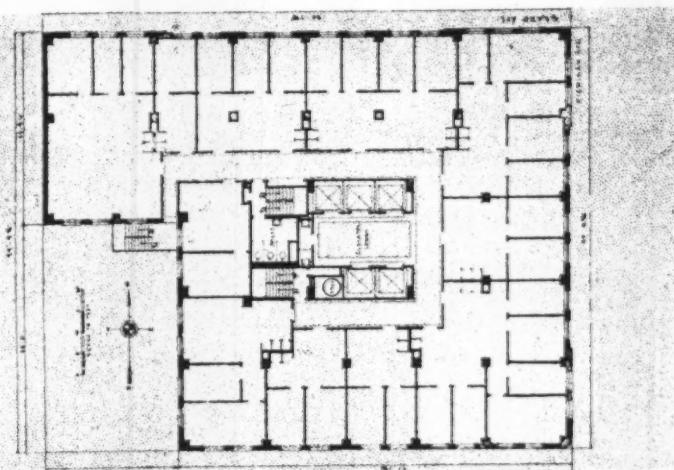


McGraw-Hill Building, the new A. L. A. Headquarters

Spaulding on "Two Days at A. L. A. Headquarters" in the *A. L. A. Bulletin* for February, which, short of a trip to Chicago, furnishes the most adequate means of becoming personally acquainted with the entire staff known to the writer of this note. "I couldn't help contrasting this visit with a former visit made several years ago when I, as one of the then 2000 members of the Association,

a mystery to me." Doubtless, in the new offices, *ils avaient changé tout cela.*

The A. L. A. is probably best known to the general public through the "Reading With a Purpose" Series, but they are only one of many with the A. L. A. imprint. Projects for the coming year call for the publication of forty titles, many new, some revised, and others reprints of existing books, according to Emily



Typical Floor Plan of New A. L. A. Headquarters

stopped at A. L. A. Headquarters to pay my respects to George B. Utley, who had but recently succeeded Chalmers Hadley as Secretary," writes Mr. Spaulding. "The office was in one room kindly lent to the Association by the Chicago Public Library, and if my memory does not fail me, it was occupied by Mr. Utley, Miss Eva Ford (still on the Headquarters staff though at present away from the office on sick leave), Miss Gwendolyn Brigham, (now Mrs. White), and an office boy. In a secluded corner, behind a screen or partition, Miss May Massee and one assistant edited the *Booklist*. But this was all in the days before people thought of 'reading with a purpose,' and only a few 'just read.'"

Mr. Spaulding found the quarters in the Crerar Library constricted. "One hears sardine cans and the black hole of Calcutta mentioned as illustrations of people crowded together. I now add a third illustration—the present A. L. A. Headquarters' Office. If there is an office anywhere in which more people occupy less space, I have yet to see it. . . . How so much work is done under the handicap of restricted space will always remain

Van Dorn Miller, editor of A. L. A. publications. "This branch of A. L. A. activities is in most ways comparable to the work of a regular publishing house, the great difference being that profits are neither expected nor sought. . . . Miss Miller's department has some interesting special activities. A service of which I was not aware, which should be of particular interest to many librarians, is the advice given by correspondence with regard to expensive reference books and new editions. It appealed to me particularly to think that here was an agency prepared to give unbiased information which might save the librarian of a small library many dollars."

"To say that I was interested in visiting A. L. A. Headquarters with free rein to go about and ask questions is putting it mildly," concludes Mr. Spaulding. "Naturally, my point of view was that of a librarian of a public library, anxious to find out what the A. L. A. could do for me as a member. I found in every department that the people are anxious to be of real service to every member and to every library, and that most of them are dealing with extremely practical problems. . . ."

Thirty Years of the Library of Congress

1899 to 1929

By William Warner Bishop, *Librarian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*

THE Anglo-Saxon, as has been oftentimes despairingly remarked by his critics and his friends, is not a logical creature. While many other countries more formal and philosophical in their concepts and phrasing of government have national libraries, Great Britain has the British Museum, and the United States the Library of Congress. Jefferson tried, by implication at least, to get it called the Library of the United States. That was the title he put on the printed catalog of his own books which were painfully carried by ox team from Monticello to Washington in 1815 to serve as a foundation for the national library, which, begun in 1800 as the Library of Congress, had been destroyed when the Capitol was burned in 1814. But Congress never took the hint. The Library of Congress it remained, and so it is called to this day.

A very humdrum and ordinary history is that of the Library of Congress in its first sixty years. Then the influence of one of the two extraordinary personalities who have made that library what it is today began to make itself felt. Appointed Librarian of Congress in 1864, Ainsworth Rand Spofford signalized his first years by certain technical changes in the working of the library, adopting that great innovation, a card catalog, in 1865, and inaugurating that system of exchanges with other governments which has had such magnificent fruitage in the past half century. In 1867 he persuaded Congress to buy the Peter Force papers, beginning that policy of the acquisition of both printed and manuscript Americana which brought in succession during his librarianship the papers and books of Benjamin Franklin, those of the Count de Rochambeau, and many other important if less distinguished collections. In 1866 he secured the transfer of the library of the Smithsonian Institution (with all its pledge of future exchanges) to the Library of Congress. In 1870, largely through Dr. Spofford's urging, the whole "copyright business" was placed under the Librarian of Congress, and all deposits arising from copyright made available for the increase of the library. Through tireless effort and with but small means he built up a library service to Congress and to the nation

far in advance of anything known before in America. And he achieved a personal reputation for extraordinary knowledge with Congressmen and with the public not matched by any librarian of our era.

But Dr. Spofford waxed old, and the Frankenstein he had created overwhelmed the Capitol and outgrew all possible provision of space. No one who had not himself seen the conditions in the old Library of Congress on the west side of the Capitol could credit the stories of heaps of books and papers piled high from floor to ceiling in certain rooms. A new building was erected, late, as is the course of governmental providing for its own, but when built lavish of space and ornament. Constructed by Bernard Green, shrewd Yankee and competent engineer, it was solid, spacious, capable of carrying immense loads of books, equipped with novel steel shelving, to the last degree adequate and sightly. Almost a million books were carted across the Capitol Grounds when the library was moved in the summer of 1897.

Dr. Spofford (well past threescore and ten) was relieved of the active direction of the library, but retained as chief assistant librarian. John Russell Young, a journalist of distinction, was appointed librarian in 1897, coming to the post from the same calling as his predecessor. Scarcely a year and a half later he passed away, but not before he had begun active measures for the internal improvement of the library, and had called some most capable men to Washington to assist him, men who have helped to make that record of thirty years which we celebrate in this volume.

On April 5, 1899, for the first time a librarian was appointed Librarian of Congress. Herbert Putnam laid down the direction of the Boston Public Library to begin in Washington a work of nation-wide influence and service.

What the new Librarian of Congress thought of the situation he found we are not permitted to know. So much as he thought fit to put into print may be discovered in an article in the *Atlantic Monthly* for February, 1900. Briefly, he found a small staff lacking systematic organization, a huge mass of books but ill arranged on Mr. Jefferson's scheme of classification; an imperfect author catalog on large slips, but no subject catalog or shelf-list; meager funds for purchases and none for publica-

Reprint from *Essays Offered to Herbert Putnam*. Copyright, 1929, by William Warner Bishop and Andrew Keogh.

tion; material special in form, that is, prints, maps, music, manuscripts and the like, in enormous quantities, but not well catalogued, arranged, and served by specialists; a service to Congress and to the public in competent directing hands, but largely untrained and distinctly non-expert; no order department and no department of public documents; great arrears in the Copyright Office; large annual accressions, chiefly from copyright and from exchange; a magnificent and imposing building, itself a pledge and promise of support from Congress. Altogether a Herculean task to fall on the shoulders of any man. And he was alone, unaided by any board of trustees, any advisory committee, any well-defined group to help in creating public opinion or in bringing pressure on the national legislature. Perhaps this last-named apparent weakness was a real source of strength—he had no one between him and the subcommittees of those appropriating bodies of Congress on whose vote the very life of the Library of Congress depends.

And now—thirty years on—how different is the picture! Over three million books fairly cramping greatly enlarged stacks; appropriations tenfold larger, even if—as always—lagging behind opportunity; public opinion in Washington and in the country enthusiastically favorable to the Library of Congress; professional opinion of all sorts and conditions of librarians solidly and almost reverentially supporting its policies; a Manuscript Division holding the papers not alone of the Continental Congress, but of the great fathers of our country, Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and their successors down to our own days; a Division of Prints, the proud custodians of priceless engravings entrusted to it by generous and discriminating collectors and rich in purchases of its own selection; an ordered array of the publications of governments, enormous in amount and invaluable in service to legislation; a Map Division containing the largest collection of atlases and maps to be found in the western hemisphere, indexed and published in imposing catalogs; a Music Division literally unrivaled in America, rich in treasures, and so abundant in scores as to be almost beyond envy, cooperating through private benefaction in the musical life of the country; the Smithsonian deposit of transactions of societies and journals swollen to half a million volumes with sets completed and well catalogued; files of American and foreign newspapers more complete and in greater amount than in any other library; a classification system adequate to such huge masses of books, yet flexible and capable of indefinite expansion, a system which has so commended itself to numbers of other libraries that they have

adapted it for their own books; a printed catalog on cards, full and scholarly, revealing the contents of books as well as their writers, and by entirely unusual ingenuity serving through sale and distribution over 4000 other libraries, as well as the Library of Congress itself; accrissions representing, not only the American press through copyright, but the great literatures of the world, and yearly filling in gaps in the ranks of books; direct service to Congress in aid of legislation through a legislative reference section and through a bibliographic service equally direct, but also useful to the country at large; a system of loans to other libraries, putting at the service of scholars the country over the wealth of the national library; a great Union Catalog of books *not* in the Library of Congress; large special collections of Slavic literature, and of oriental literature administered by librarians expert in those esoteric languages; special service and facilities for the visiting scholar unmatched in other governmental libraries; in these last years private endowments and gifts for both service and books attracted to the library by its promise of permanence; in short, a working, living, serving organism in aid of research, scholarship, legislation, government, the national life itself.

Many men and many forces have contributed to bring about this amazing development, always under the guiding control of a single mind. Chief of these has been Congressional support, and its corollary, cooperation from the departments of the Government. While to those in the thick of the daily routine no appropriation is likely to seem adequate, to one observing from a distance and over a period of now three decades, the great sums voted by successive Congresses for the support, enlargement and growth of the Library of Congress are seen to be, not only a sufficient cause for much of the change from 1899 to 1929, but are in themselves an impressive tribute to a persuasive and convincing presentation to Congress of the library's needs. Year after year the Legislative, Executive and Judicial appropriation bill has seen generous provision for the Library of Congress, changing now with shifting needs and now with more clearly perceived opportunities, but steadily mounting and always at least adequate to good service—occasionally reaching proportions to excite envy in the breasts of brother-librarians. Congress is notoriously slow to recognize imponderable values, but in its support of its own library clear and reasonable statement of need has been met in the long run without too much emphasis on the immediately practical. The record of appropriations in these thirty years is not the least imposing part of that sum of

service to the nation which we are attempting to cast up in this survey.

But appropriations and provisions for the transfer of invaluable archive material do not alone account for this growth alike in size and in character of the national library. The confidence of benefactors once gained, great gifts have come to the Library of Congress. The benefactions of collectors perhaps come first, for the man who has put himself into the collection he has gleaned from the book-marts of the world gives far more than he who generously opens his purse alone. There is no space here to record even the major part of those who in these three decades have given the fruits of their collecting. One may mention a few names, but as samples merely. The prints from Jeffrey Parsons, from the Pennells, and from Junius Morgan; the great Deinard collections of Judaica from Mr. Schiff; the Thacher incunabula and Americana; the papers of several Presidents from their families, and other gifts of manuscripts; these are but a few out of scores and hundreds of collections and separate items given to the library. And if not actual gifts, certain great collections have been secured at prices so nominal as almost to count as donations. Chief of these is the Yudin library of Slavica, particularly rich in Siberian material, comprising over 80,000 volumes. And in these recent days have come Mrs. Frederic Coolidge's gift of an auditorium for music with her generous provision for chamber concerts, as well as the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board and the endowment of two "chairs," one in American history and one in the fine arts. Moreover, grants from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., are permitting extraordinary and much-needed service in aid of scholarship to be carried forward far more rapidly than could otherwise have been hoped for. Certainly the confidence of Congress has been followed by the confidence of discriminating donors. Both are tributes to successful administration, to patient daily insistence on high performance, to an ideal for the library which only a long period of service could have brought to such fruition.

Still, ideals, unless embodied in men and their work, are but sounding brass and tinkling cymbals. Herbert Putnam found some remarkable men on the staff of the library in 1899. It is to his lasting credit that he saw and proved their power, fitted them to the work for which each was most suited, and sustained them in their daily service. Solberg, Hanson, Martel, Griffin, Phillips, Hutcheson are names which have meant much to American librarianship. To them he added with the years others—Sonneck, Engel, Martin, Ford, Hunt, Ashley, Hastings, Boyd, Meyer, Parsons, Slade,

Harris, and now Jameson, to mention but a few. And he gave them helpers. Adamant to political pressure—for the Library of Congress is not under the Civil Service Act—he drew to the library an array of skilled librarians unequaled in America. In the years of the World War this force suffered much depletion. Happily, it has recovered, and the newer classification of government employees gives it a reasonably sound professional status. The salaries have never been high, but there has always under Dr. Putnam been distinction in working in the Library of Congress, a distinction which has brought and kept a strong staff.

Important as these factors have been, it remains true that a skillful use of other agencies has likewise done much toward creating that public regard and approval without which no governmental library can ever hope for success. The Smithsonian connection, maintained and fostered despite any momentary loss of convenience or failure of service, has done much to make the Library of Congress a leader in collections of the publications of academies and scientific societies from all the world. That marvelous group of journals and transactions, painfully completed through many years of devoted labor by Francis Parsons, is perhaps the most useful single department of the library—certainly the portion which directors of research libraries would most like to transfer to their own domain, were plundering the order of the day. Dr. Spofford secured the gift from the Government to be used for exchanges of sets of all United States documents. Mr. Putnam, through his organization and steady support of the Division of Documents, has not only secured a full fruitage in the way of publications of foreign national governments, but an even more remarkable array of documents of lesser governmental divisions, provinces, states, regions, and cities. Every agency of our Federal Government having any power to influence the sending and gathering of documents has been brought into service. And by a very clever use of printer's ink the *Library of Congress Monthly List of State Publications* has been made, not only an indispensable bibliography, but a great collecting agency for the library.

Cooperation with other branches of the Government has had some interesting by-products, chief of which is the huge oriental collection. In 1900 Mr. Putnam deplored the almost entire lack of oriental literature. Today the Library of Congress holds Japanese, Chinese and other oriental books of great significance and value and in extraordinary number. The greater part of these acquisitions is directly due to the zeal and skill of Dr. Walter Swingle

of the Department of Agriculture, whose help, beginning in a rather small cooperative effort, has reached monumental proportions. Other instances of the fruits of governmental cooperation might be multiplied almost indefinitely.

The copyright law has brought huge masses, not alone of books, but of maps, prints, music and newspapers to the Library of Congress. These might well have been a crushing burden. It is perhaps Dr. Putnam's greatest service to the nation that he has seen the obligation to develop and make highly useful these deposits of material essential to scholarship and to culture, but too frequently neglected in libraries, just because unusual in form and very costly both to get and to keep. The Library of Congress has acquired great distinction, not merely because of what the Copyright Act has brought it, but because the Librarian of Congress has added wisely and liberally to the deposits, and has put in charge of them men capable of turning these apparent liabilities into assets of unique value. By their purchases, their published catalogs and indexes, their service of their materials, the Divisions of Prints, Maps, Music and Newspapers have become unrivaled in this country.

Perhaps no single feature of these thirty years has meant so much to the development of libraries in America as has the sale of printed catalog cards from the Library of Congress. That service is now so familiar to librarians that it is hard to put ourselves back to 1901 when it began. Libraries the country over have come to depend absolutely on the Library of Congress for the greater part of their cataloging. A system of sale alike simple and accurate, a huge stock of cards, a competent force making deliveries rapidly through the mails, all these are the commonplace of library practice. But they all have come from the vision of a small group, backed and encouraged with sympathetic patience by a wise director. It is to the lasting benefit of the reading public of America that Herbert Putnam supported James Hanson and Charles Hastings in their working out of a practical scheme of central cataloging.

Cooperation has in fact been the keynote to the activities of the Library of Congress in these three decades. Cooperation with the American Library Association, especially in its earlier days, when aid was far more needed than of late years, has meant much to the elevation and maintenance of professional standards. Cooperation with other governmental

agencies, including the libraries of the Government in Washington, has greatly helped the public service. Cooperation with other libraries in manifold ways too numerous to mention has done much for readers and students in America. Particularly in the development of the interlibrary loan has the Library of Congress been, not a benefactor only, but a leader in a nation-wide service of incalculable benefit to scholarship. The recent growth on a large scale of the modest "Union Catalogue," begun fifteen years and more ago, is proving every day the value of centralized bibliographic service in aid of research. In truth the spirit of mutual assistance which has distinguished the Library of Congress in its relations with other libraries is doubtless the outstanding characteristic of that library in the eyes of librarians. And that spirit reflects the disposition and aims of its head.

It may seem that this estimate is wholly in the superlative degree. There is another side, as Dr. Putnam would himself be the first to declare. Not all his projects have been wholly successful, nor have all the possibilities of the library's service been discovered or followed. Many a favorite plan and purpose urged by the staff has had to be deferred. Many an opportunity to acquire books and other material of supreme importance has been of necessity refused, to the profit of private collectors and of other libraries. Not all the men called to high office in the library have been equal to their task. The more merit, then, to that judgment and discernment which has at least stressed the practical and the attainable, always with an eye to high standards and aims.

But beyond and above all these manifestations of a vivifying and guiding spirit stands the man himself, something more than and different from his work. It is not meet that we should analyze or dissect his character and himself. In honoring him in this volume, he will at least permit an old friend and a former subordinate to say this much: These thirty years have revealed to us a man of vision with aims and ideals unmatched in our experience: they have shown his statesmanship; they have seen a patience that has never faltered or halted, a persuasiveness that has brought money and support in large measure, a vigor that not the weight of years or great burdens has weakened. And more than all else, these thirty years have shown us a kindness and humanity all his own. In honoring him we greatly honor both ourselves and our calling.

Addresses at the Putnam Festival

THE following were the chief addresses made during the two days of the testimonial festival for Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, April 5-6, by the Chairmen of the Senate and House Library Committees, with response by Dr. Putnam. As the latter's remarks were

absolutely extemporaneous in "thinking on his feet," he has written out what he said from remembrance, covering his responses on the two days with some further words, including the fine message to the staff which he left as he sailed for Europe on April 10.

Senator Fess' Address

Mr. Chairman, Dr. Putnam and friends of the Round Table:

It is a pleasant situation in which I find myself, with this group of scholars and research men and women to do honor to our distinguished leader, the head of the Library and founder of the Round Table. Heretofore the occasions which brought about this table notable personages may have been prompted by interest in the Library, or the extension of the field of research, or the advancement of scholarship; or it may have been for the cultivation of the professional spirit and social refinement. Whatever had been the promptings, at this time this notable gathering is to pay tribute to the founder, Dr. Herbert Putnam, as a mark of our love and respect for this constructive builder, this educational statesman.

It was this Round Table which called forth from a distinguished foreigner, a man of letters, visiting the capital, what he classified as the one place in America where he found an institution that rivalled its famous predecessors in the Old World.

We, the friends of both the Library and its present head, are here to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of his administration of this great institution. The expansion of the Library of Congress in the thirty years of his administration is the marvel of the Capital. In thirty years its collections of books have increased from a rather inconsequential number as libraries go to a rank surpassed only by two such institutions in the Old World, and will very soon pass both of these and take first rank in all the world in number of volumes now found on the 101 miles of book shelves. Already it has taken that rank in certain divisions of service. In that time it has passed from a service limited to the legislative department of the Government to a service for mankind, with the promise of soon becoming the greatest center of scholarship in existence. Its influence does not only permeate the Capital, but is felt throughout our own land and in many ways reaches other distant countries.

Of its many units of public response organized into various divisions for library and scholarship service, its newest field, covered by the Library Fund Commission may be its farthest reaching in the service of culture and scholarship. Here is doubtless the first step to the fulfillment of the dream, as well as the promise of George Washington, in his ambition for a center of higher learning, to be located at the seat of government. Friends of scholarship can see in this newest addition the increasingly important seminary of new ideas, of additions to knowledge and the promotion of culture.

These remarkable results did not merely happen. They arise out of a comprehensive plan, sounded in an idealism and directed by a practical genius, a combination rarely found in one individual. Those of us who are acquainted with the work on the hill must know how difficult it is to secure legislative approval of what might be termed the high-brow interest. No one present, outside of the members of Congress, can appreciate the prejudice that must be met when appropriations are requested for the promotion of the arts, since all legislation must be based upon civil reasons. Long ago we reached the happy situation where a recommendation of Dr. Putnam for the Library carried with it the assurance of approval without amendment. No higher tribute could be paid our leader, and no element of his success gives him greater joy than this mark of public confidence.

When we survey what has been done in the last thirty years under your leadership, with this wonderfully rich country behind us, we can but wonder what will be the next thirty years. You have set a high standard of constructive service, which you have unerringly maintained, and which all your friends ardently hope may be continued for many years yet in front of you. We meet today at this milepost in your career to pay this tribute of love and respect, and to congratulate the country at large upon your signal service in the promotion of the interests of this truly national institution, the Library of Congress.

Representative Luce's Address

If what I may say will have something of an official flavor, it will be because for ten years I have been a member of the House Committee on the Library, with the oversight of this institution as the chief part of its duties. I would corroborate Senator Fess in his testimony as to the harmony between Congress and its Librarian. Mr. Putnam has earned the confidence of Congress. Its members trust him. They respect his judgment. They admire his efficiency. Knowing that his requests are reasonable, justified by the facts, they meet his wishes sympathetically. They are glad to help.

They are proud of their Library. Although it has become a great center of knowledge, it was in its inception the Library of Congress. Such it still is primarily, and such it will long continue to be. For that reason Senators and Representatives take in it a personal interest and satisfaction. Apart from this, however, its achievements are better appraised by Congress than certain conceptions of the membership of that body would lead the misinformed to expect. As a matter of fact its members, taken as a group, have had much more of mental training than a group of equal size taken at random from men of affairs in general, are more familiar with the world of books, are more alive to the utility of knowledge and the value of culture. They may not all be scholars, and they are not chiefly concerned with the advancement of learning, but they appreciate their Library.

Partly for this reason service on the Committee on the Library is particularly agreeable. Its reports are assured of sympathetic hearing. Its advice, based as it always is, on the sound judgment of Mr. Putnam, is almost invariably followed. This helps to make membership upon it desired, in spite of the fact that it is one of the small committees, with no great amount of opportunity for work and with little actual power. The real power in the matter of the Library is in the hands of the Committee on Appropriations. And let me give credit where it is due by saying that the Committee on Appropriations is also sympathetic, interested and helpful. For example, you should in fairness be told that the suggestion for taking the first step toward what will be the next important addition to the facilities of the Library, another building, came to the Committee on the Library from the Chairman of that subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations which has the responsibility of advising what shall be annually expended for this institution.

This friendliness of the committees particularly concerned, and of the Congress itself, while fostered by the admirable efficiency of Mr. Putnam as an administrator of routine, may be chiefly ascribed to what he is accomplishing in the way of constructive development. We appreciate that he is making this the most useful reservoir of knowledge in the world. Thus he puts himself in the foremost rank of those who are leading in what the historian may adjudge to be the most significant advance in our time. At the moment it is the custom to give the first place to the achievements of applied science. Perhaps with the perspective of the years the spread of knowledge will be given the higher credit.

Take one illustration of what has been achieved, from this very field. Almost half a century ago Mr. Putnam and I were in college together. At that time the venerable figure of John Langdon Sibley was still familiar in the college yard at Cambridge. One Saturday afternoon not long before, a friend saw him locking the door of the college library, which was in his charge. His face wore a smile, which led the friend to ask him why he was so pleased. Sibley answered: "Every book but one is in its place on the shelf. Agassiz has that one, and I am going after it now."

In those days a librarian was merely a custodian of books, a warehouseman, concerned only with keeping the books from being damaged, lost or stolen. Think of the revolution the half-century has wrought. Then the librarian guarded. Now he drives. Now his chief duty is to persuade, to entice, to cajole his fellow-man into profiting by the treasures of knowledge that have been stored between the covers of books.

Through centuries it was thought that, save for a learned few, the use of books was the province of the young, in acquiring what was called "education." Our day has seen study by the many prolonged through life. In the public library we have created the people's college.

I like to recall the sonorous words with which John Adams began the chapter on "The Encouragement of Literature," when writing the Constitution of the Commonwealth from which I come. "Wisdom and knowledge, as well as virtue, diffused generally among the body of the people, being necessary for the preservation of their rights and liberties." Because only thus can our rights and liberties be preserved, I hold the work of the librarian to be the most important of professions.

In this work the man we would honor today

is the leader. He is making this the fountain spring from which knowledge shall go in divers channels to countless smaller fountains, not merely throughout our own land but throughout the world. Yesterday we extolled the thirty years that have passed. Today let us extol the thirty that are to come, through all

of which we hope he may be spared for turning his dream into reality. Today let us praise him, not chiefly as a great administrator, not chiefly as a man of tact, of industry, of efficiency, but because he builds, because he has the vision to go on building for many years to come.

Dr. Putnam's Response

WHAT an extraordinary occasion! I wish, friends, my response could fit it. But I don't feel as glib as usual. How can I, as I look at this volume, and realize what it imports? It is the sort of thing done for men of great achievement in learning, men I've regarded with a distant awe. Never could I have imagined myself thus brought into their company. And the lavish words in addition! So confusing. I've never felt less master of an occasion; never experienced gains which left me at such a loss. I wish I could regard the occasion objectively. I can't. Its possible implications even make me uneasy. Are you here to bury me?—or at least to retire me? For such characterizations aren't safe of a man with whom one is to continue in affairs. Perhaps you are only shelving me, in the benignant way in which one shelves a book—with reference to a still further service. To that intent you have to classify me, for some classification is necessary, even if it can't be very precise or scientific. It certainly wouldn't be if I attempted it. In fact, I should be puzzled to make it. Where *do* I belong? For I'm not the scholar that was the librarian of the old school. Nor, on the other hand, have I the driving force, the confident vigor of the typical executive of the new. I'm not one of those who are buoyed along through a series of achievements by faith in some lofty and spacious vision. To *me* those thirty years represent just concentration each day upon some particular, and the approach, as *I* recall it, was habitually hesitant and dubious. One of Mr. Hummel's favorite philosophers remarked that it isn't the mountains one stumbles over; it's the molehills. As *I* look back over the thirty years, I see myself incessantly stumbling over the molehills. Yet you seem to be treating this anniversary as if it marked the achievement of some large design, conceived with reference to a theoretic perfection and worked out under a secure philosophy.

But I am not merely dazed, I am dumbfounded, in reflecting upon the preparation that this volume and this gathering have involved. Over sixty essays, planned, sought and se-

cured; the editing, the presswork, the publication! And, as a special care, the exquisite binding upon my particular copy. Incredibly! Then your presence here; so many of you, from such distances, and so various in what you represent. Among your former colleagues, who, in ceasing to be colleagues, have never ceased to be friends. And present colleagues who, though participants in the gifts of the occasion, cannot escape their share also of the benefits of them. For, whatever the achievement, the due is as much theirs as mine. This is a corporate age, an age of joint responsibility.

"For the deeds men do together are what save the world today.

By our common public work we stand or fall,

And—as your fraction of the sin

Of the office you are in

Is the sin that's going to damn you after all—

So, when all is done and said, it's
You must share the major credit

Of the creditable thing that doesn't stall."

But the phenomenon itself! All this effort, organization, preparation, all this notable gathering, designed to make one man think well of himself! And a portrayal of me in words, to the same end. Now, I don't think ill of myself—to do so would be to disparage my job. And I confess I have been absorbed in the portrait. (It isn't, of course, *my* portrait; I never owned anything so expensive!) But it is rather captivating. I can see how it came about—the canvas from the public domain; the pigments supplied by various of you; the composition and artistry entrusted to a skilled few. It is, I say, a captivating portrait, lacking only perspective. I won't wholly protest it. But if I had drawn it, I should have laid the emphasis somewhat differently. For instance, in the definition of my processes. They represent, not invention, but merely discovery. My rôle is to detect certain efficiencies and aid to give rein to them; to discern certain qualities and aid to give freedom to them. The efficiencies are there and the qualities; they

need only to be released. The discovery and release of them constitutes the only art that I have practised, either with my colleagues or with those groups in Congress upon whom the welfare of the institution depends.

Among the qualities is, of course, that fundamental one which Mr. Luce referred to as "idealism." And his assertion that it exists in the 435 men composing the House is notably supported by my actual experience. For my experience is (and I take satisfaction in declaring it to remoter companies inclined to be cynical about Congress)—my experience is that the projects which make the liveliest appeal to an Appropriation Committee and secure the readiest approval are precisely those which rest on considerations purely ideal, without regard to any direct utility. Now the idealism must be there. I can't put it there. The most I can do is to assume it, to discover it, and then to evoke it. Some successes of that sort I don't deny. The major significance of them is the fact that the idealism itself exists and may be counted upon. Ability to count upon it has been my chief reliance. If you think the ability partly resident in me, give me credit for that part. But what I've relied upon as an asset is the part wholly outside of me. In all major efforts it has eased my way, and faith in it has throughout cheered my way. In concluding an editorial, the New York *World* of yesterday remarks: "Dr. Putnam ought to be happy in his job." If Dr. Putnam has been happy in his job, that faith, supported by such experience, has been the warrant.

But I would not let my final emphasis be upon any individual or his satisfactions. How clarifying it is to turn from the uncertain traits of an individual to the essential nature of an institution! Consider, then, what is the essential nature of this one and its distinctive service. If one were to compact the essentials, they would be these:

1. A library with much concern in the diffusion of knowledge, but more distinctive concern in the promotion of learning and a large responsibility as an expression of culture.

2. For its service as requisites

- (a) Ample and commodious physical accommodation which will meet a diversified need;
- (b) Equipment which will foster meditation by the avoidance of hesitation and friction;
- (c) Bibliographic apparatus which recognizes that time also may be of the essence;
- (d) Collections adequately representative, not merely of learning but of culture.
- (e) In conduct of them, informed by them; saturated by the spirit of them

and with an enthusiasm to diffuse it, men and women to aid to the interpretation of them—men and women sufficiently exact in their knowledge, but also discriminate in their learning; men and women of intellectual breeding, with "that good taste which is the conscience of the mind."

That establishment and personnel realized, the Library may, indeed, come to express, not merely the truth, but the nobility that is literature. It may take its distinctive place among the institutions of learning. And it may achieve pre-eminence in the service to the community which is the distinctive service of all great libraries of its type; in reminding a cursory generation of the origins and depths of things; in offsetting pessimism by a record of the certain advance of civilization, in spite of its temporary reverses; in discouraging distortion and exaggeration by examples of true value and proportion; in standing for simplicity in matters of taste; and, in an age of turmoi, offering its own example of *Serenity*.

Mr. Luce remarked that the powers of Congress over the Library are exercised by the Appropriation Committee rather than by the Library Committee. It is, indeed, true that the Appropriation Committee holds the purse-strings. It is true that under the organization provided in 1897 the Library Committee declared that it no longer functioned in relation to the administration of the Library. It is true that it does not concern itself with any of the routine. But the committee is *there*; in any crisis it is available, and in any measure involving the larger structure, constitution, policy of the Library its influence is of paramount importance. In the major such measures of the past five years its aid has been not merely substantial, but indispensable.

And you may judge what it has meant to me to be able to count upon the sympathy, the understanding and the determined effort of two such chairmen as have disclosed themselves today.

Mr. Luce emphasized that this is still the "Library of Congress" and would always remain so. I am absolutely of that mind. And I should never willingly forego the ties with Congress which the title implies; the authority of Congress over the Library, of course; but also the sense of responsibility, the concern for it, the pride in it. Incidentally, the relation—classing the Library as part of the legislative establishment—has many conveniences well understood by those in the Government services and many convenient immunities; and it carries a protection, little understood by anyone who has not thought it out.

But Mr. Luce did not mean—he made clear

that he did not mean—that the title, or the relation, implied on the part of Congress an exclusive benefit, use, enjoyment, of the Library. And the experience of the thirty years has proved that Congress itself has no thought or intention that it should mean that. On the contrary, no projects that I have brought forward have had such keen interest and such ready response on the part of Congress as

those which intended an extension of the service to the community at large. And the large measures of this sort which have especially characterized the past five years—measures quite hazardous on the theory that Congress took a narrowly exclusive view of our functions—such measures have passed *by unanimous consent* in short sessions, when a single obstinate objection would have baffled them.

Dr. Putnam's Message to His Staff

To my Immediate Family—All Six Hundred of You:

I am off for Europe today.

(Parenthetically: The official reasons for the trip are sufficiently numerous and plausible; so that you need not exploit what *you* must suspect to be the real reason: i.e. that I may make the acquaintance of the various foreign languages with which I am alleged to have a present intimacy. Such motives are better kept within the family.)

The eve of my departure has coincided with an anniversary—the conclusion of my thirtieth year of service here; and numerous people, of great consequence, have conspired to signalize it as an Occasion. Over sixty of them have done so in the preparation of a Book, which, in compliment to me, enriches the literature of our profession. Others, in similar compliment, have joined in the gift to the Library of a precious bibliographic rarity, which is to enrich its collections. On Friday and Saturday, several score others, declared representatives of a multitude, gathered here to lavish upon me words of cordiality and approval. And a group out of your own number presented to me a charmingly conceived, charmingly executed, Brochure, which, with their signatures inscribed, records their satisfaction in the experience of our joint service together.

The donors last named consisted of members of the staff who had served here at least fifteen years. But as I do not mean any such period to delay my regard for you, so I do not believe it necessary to develop your good-will toward me. And I therefore generalize the expression of this particular group into one which you would willingly let represent you all. I have been *greatly* touched by it.

The expressions from without requiring an immediate acknowledgment, I was under great difficulty in the making of it. For the encomiums upon me personally went so far that, while accepting, as one does, the sheer kindness of them in the spirit in which it was meant, I was obliged to protest an excess which I felt to be *rationally* inadmissible. It consisted, not in overpraise of the Library in what it has become, not in over-valuation of its aims, not even in a too liberal appraisal of the service that I have rendered—but in a disproportionate view of my function in relation to the Library as an organism.

The protest was not out of modesty—for no man can affect modesty who deems himself competent to be your chief—but because of my urgent concern that the personality to be considered significant is the personality of the institution itself of which the personalities of the staff, including myself, are merely components.

It is, I say, that embracing personality which is my main concern. It must, even more especially, be yours. For though I may attempt definitions of it, and from time to time secure resources for the freer realization of it, the actual development of it rests chiefly with you. The major task will be yours; and the *will* for it must be yours.

And therefore, in sharing with you the commendations of these days, and the new zest which they inspire, let me ask you to give still freer exercise to those qualities in you without which, in spite of building, books, and apparatus, the Library will never express or fulfill its proper nature.

And I ask it of you, not as subordinates, serving under me, but as associates, serving *abreast* of me.

The Bibliographical Tour of 1928

By Theodore Wesley Koch

Librarian, Northwestern University

XI—Berlin

DURING our stay in Berlin we had the good fortune to have as our special cicerone Dr. Gertrud Ferber, Executive Secretary of the Carl Schurz Vereinigung. She not only arranged for our visits to libraries and museums, but was chiefly responsible for the dinner given in our honor by the Vereinigung, at which were present the German Ambassador to the United States, representatives of the American Consulate, the Reichstag, the German Foreign Office, the Prussian State Library, the Berlin City Library, the Amerika-Institut, and prominent publishers and booksellers. Dr. K. O. Bertling of the Amerika-Institut presided. Speeches were made by the American Ambassador, the American Vice-Consul, the head of the American Section of the German Foreign Office, and Dr. Kuhnert of the Prussian State Library. All voiced the sentiment that an exchange of visits such as this one of the Bibliographical Tour was sure to aid in intellectual cooperation, to further international good-will and mutual understanding.

Other delightful gatherings were the reception and tea given by the publishing house of Walter de Gruyter in their own offices, and the five o'clock tea staged for us by Mr. Paul Gottschalk on the upper landing of the Funk-Thurm or Radio Tower.

The Prussian State Library

Among those who helped to show us over the Prussian State Library we were glad to see Mr. Mahlon Schnacke, late of the New York Public Library staff, who had been spending some months as the guest of the Prussian State Library working in its various departments. In an address before the German Library Association a few weeks after our visit, Mr. Schnacke compared German and American libraries, using as examples the Berlin and New York libraries mentioned. I give here a synopsis of his paper as published in the *Zeitschrift für Bibliothekswesen*, September-October, 1928.

The first striking difference between two such libraries as those mentioned is the one of financial support. The budget of the Prussian State Library is about 1,800,000 marks, or one-third of that of the Reference Department of the New York Public Library, and the Berlin staff numbers 300, or one-half of that of

the New York Public Library. The first thing that struck Mr. Schnacke (as it does other American visitors) was the small number of attendants in the book-stacks. "Throughout the stacks, with row after row of shelves overflowing with books, perfect silence reigned and not a man was to be seen," said Mr. Schnacke. "It was almost a surprise when you saw the only official for the whole floor."

Other German libraries suffer also from a lack of personnel, especially noticeable in the National Library in Vienna. Of course, this affects very seriously the delivery of books to the readers. The German scholar, however, is so accustomed to doing his work in his own home that he is not so dependent upon reference libraries.

The Prussian State Library was first a depository, a national storehouse for the book possessions of the country. But from being an archive library it has become a circulating library on a large scale, since it loans German books outside its borders. Thus the duties of the library have been greatly increased without a corresponding growth in its personnel. The circulation has shot ahead, and the other departments cannot keep up with it. While quick delivery of a book demands that it take the shortest possible course, this course is hindered by the very thorough work in the catalog department. Mr. Schnacke feels that it is impossible to convince the public of the distressing condition and especially the lack of personnel in the German libraries when such strenuous efforts are made to meet the increasing demands, and he feels that unless the personnel is increased the circulation privileges must be somewhat curtailed.

In the Prussian State Library it takes from five to twenty-four hours to secure books for use in the Reading Room. In the New York Public Library the average time required in 1927 was 8.8 minutes. If it should take as much as half an hour in New York the reader would be justified in entering a complaint.

Mr. Schnacke said that he, like other visitors, was struck by the large size of the reading rooms and of the work-rooms. Accustomed as he had been to overcrowded work-rooms, where one table stands close to the next, he was impressed with the three large rooms occupied by the Accessions Department of the Prussian State Library. On the other hand he was greatly surprised at the almost general

lack of typewriters. In the work-rooms of an American library you see long rows of typewriters, which give to the room the appearance of a business office. When Mr. Schnacke

typewriter of the department! Everywhere they had firmly bound ledgers which necessitated entry by longhand. Card catalogs had existed for some time, but were relatively small



Main Entrance—Prussian State Library, Berlin

asked for a typewriter in the Prussian State Library he was led through the whole department, then to a side room and there in a corner behind a pair of curtains stood the official

and the cards were of varying sizes and were still for the most part filled out by hand.

Mr. Schnacke said that American librarians would have been surprised if they could

have taken part, as he did, in the meetings of the higher library officials, where they were still debating over the question as to whether they should introduce a card catalog of authors or whether the catalog in book form should be continued. American librarians may differ about many technical points, but concerning this matter there has been only one opinion for the past generation. Even more surprising was the fact that they had not even begun to debate the question of introducing a card catalog of subject entries. Greater reliance is put upon printed bibliographies of all kinds, and on personal contacts between the readers and the librarians, many of whom are specially fitted to guide the student in book selection.

The Prussian State Library has on its staff a group of specialists, each one with an intimate knowledge of his field, such as one would expect of a university professor. These men give a kind of expert service, which is almost entirely lacking in our American libraries. They help to differentiate the *wissenschaftlich* from the *volks-bibliothek*, the *serious* from the *popular* libraries. A serious library can select its own readers; it has the right to ask a reader applicant about his education and about the reasons why he wishes to use that particular library. The burden of the proof rests with the borrower. A serious library aims to buy only valuable books, works useful to the scholar or which might become useful in the future. In practice it may be difficult to define what may be valuable and what ephemeral or entirely worthless. Therefore, the weekly buy-

ing conferences of the Prussian State Library officials are always interesting. Another consequence of the idea that a serious library expects a scholarly clientèle is the absence of an information or reference desk. The reader is left to get his information out of books, since, as an expert or as a student who is specializing, he should know the bibliography of his field. No one helps him to find the newspaper articles or the books which would answer his questions. Mr. Schnacke surmised that this attitude was a relic of the old idea that an expert has a right to keep his knowledge to himself, an idea that was strengthened when he found out that the Prussian State Library, instead of making itself available by the telephone, hides behind a sacred telephone number which is not given to the public!

Where information is required that cannot be expected of the expert, wonderful things have been done by the Prussian State Library. The fame of the union catalog of the Institutional Libraries of Prussia has spread throughout the United States. This has been many years in the making, and despite the limited funds available, it has become one of the most important technical aids enjoyed by the German investigator. The fact that for ten pfennigs, no matter where you are in Germany, you can learn through the Bureau of Information whether the book you desire can be had in Germany, and, if so, in what library, has proved one of the most important means of assisting research in this country famed for research.

Reading with a Purpose and Without a Purpose

By Lucia H. Sanderson, *Readers' Adviser, Cleveland Public Library*

ARE you all "either"-ors," I wonder? I think that all people who read with a purpose want to find pleasure, and those who read for pleasure generally have a concealed purpose, so that my own position is that of the small boy who was asked if he would have ice cream or pie: "I'll take both, please, and I like large helpings."

Without a doubt there is a subtle irritation in the words "reading with a purpose." Librarians are not tired of the reality behind the words, for they are reading with a purpose constantly and enjoying what they read; but they are a bit tired of the somewhat pedantic title, which, I take it, means the same to everybody; *i.e.*, reading with a designed intent set before one as an object or end to be

attained, a subject to be mastered.

Those who read otherwise want no string tied to their browsings; at least, they do not want to be conscious that it is there. They hate all bounds save those of art, and read to refresh themselves. They deplore anything so obvious, so intentional, as reading with an objective; they read for pleasure. They say that the literary world laughs at this ludicrous recent phase of cheap America sold to the belief that everything must have point and purpose. They look at such reading as just another eminently self-satisfying but desperate and futile project to get background quickly and be considered educated. They think of such efforts as a purely utilitarian attitude toward literature with all the joys of reading left out, and they say, "One who has become a real reader will have none of it."

But "I read for pleasure" has quite as irri-

tating a sound in the ear of one for whom the world has begun to take on new meaning, since he read with a purpose. Reading for pleasure suggests to him desultory, hit or miss reading. He sees the picture of an American girl who goes on eating marrons glacés in a hotel parlor all her life, and it disgusts him. But when he hears a cultured man say, "I have got more out of my purposeless reading than I ever did out of the purposeful," he pauses to know what can possibly be meant, for if such reading is going to continue to give pleasure, the selection cannot be aimless; desultory reading palls after a while and kills pleasure. It is like the old colored woman when giving a recipe for cookies. "And how much molasses, Mammy?" she was asked. "Oh, jest enough, honey, jest enough." We need just enough pleasure reading, too, for one who reads for pleasure expects to find his interests deepening and widening, and wants to approach what he reads eagerly. He is just the one whose reading must have zest and smack. The getting idea is deeply embedded in reading for pleasure. Such readers expect to have the facts of life illuminated—that is where the joy comes in—and they have a hope, rather confused, of becoming happier and wiser through reading.

The facts of life illuminated and a hope of becoming wiser and happier through reading—these are the avowed objectives of reading with a purpose.

So we have arrived at the same cross-road. Perhaps the irritation is in the words only, in both cases. There is no parting of the ways between spontaneity and culture, really. The goal of all reading, whatever the avowed or concealed objective, is delight, and we get it in different ways. The question is, what gives us delight?

As these two readers, with opposite viewpoints as to the method of getting enjoyment, stand at the same cross-road and recognize each other, they have to admit that they are both wrong—absolutely and absurdly wrong. The essential attitude in reading does not lie in either direction. The art of reading is something quite different from either method, and we have to cry, "A plague o' both your houses!"

We are always after something in our reading; we want to get somewhere. Really, however, what brings joy in reading is not to go out to get knowledge or background; neither is it to get pleasure. It is something far more subtle, and yet so natural a thing; very difficult to attain and yet so easy if we have cultivated it. It is letting ourselves be saturated through and through with the spirit of the author as the body absorbs the rays of the

sun when it exposes itself to the warmth and the glow. It is the rejuvenating, radiating kind of reading, opening the nature to the spirit of the literature, imbibing and absorbing all that we are capable of taking in; the attitude which does not desire to make a piece of literature yield itself to us, but to steep ourselves in it; when we do not say, "I get something out of this," but "This gets me"—the attitude when every part of us is alive and sentient to the influence that is there, and we have taken time enough to let it steal over us and around us and through us, and we are interfused with it.

This illustrates what I mean. I remember a conversation with a great musician. The woman who approached him wanted to get something out of music. "I go year after year to the symphony concerts and do not know any more at the end of the season than I did at the beginning, and I try so hard to understand. What is the matter?" The musician said, "Why not just listen to the music? That will refresh you and soothe you and finally interpret the music to you; just a change of emphasis is what you want."

But that emptying of self and listening is not so easy. It is impossible if we haven't been practising it.

Perhaps you think that most of what is written is not worthy of such an outpouring of spirit, and that when we find an author who calls us out, we always read that way; but unless we have been cultivating the listening attitude in all reading we have a meager something to bring to the great piece of literature. We imagine we let ourselves go, or can do it, but most of us take our prejudices with us, and the author has to conform.

With this outgoing attitude the question is not, Do we read with a purpose or do we read without a purpose? And yet it is both purposeless and purposeful reading if you see what this outgoing spirit implies. Perhaps we should say less purpose or more purpose is shown according to the rhythm that is set going. We go out to the world in different wave lengths of interest, and the question is, How alive am I to it all? How much of the world really interests me? To how much of it am I dead? How much of the author can I absorb? Perhaps the man who says he reads for pleasure knows better how to give himself up to an author than the one who has purposely tried to acquire knowledge, but the so-called purposeful reader is usually more alive in other directions; he sees something interesting in the distance which draws him on to investigate. What the author has to say can penetrate no deeper than we have gone ourselves. There may be a wealth of inter-

esting suggestion there, but we don't get it unless we are alive on that side, and interests are quickened and deepened and changed to keen curiosity in proportion to the attention we have given them. It is when a desultory, stray, unstable reaching out becomes a definite and steady urge in a given direction that a desire for knowledge in that direction appears. As interest deepens, the imagination sees things in different proportion; some lines that were never of any interest before become of great value and pertinence. It is as though we turned the kaleidoscope and new forms dropped down in place of the old. Where we saw the world as all of one color, a rift has changed the look of the horizon and we want wider experience, and our eyes are opened to see what did not appear before; something has made us see a goal and we are ready to travel toward it.

Why does one person say of a collection of serious books, "You haven't anything interesting here, have you?" And another, "My, if life were only long enough to get it all!" Or why does one librarian say, "Oh, you read such serious things; you make me tired." And the other answers, "I don't read them because they are serious, but because I like them; I am really interested along those lines."

A life takes a certain rhythm according to the state of the imagination and the desire to follow it. We seek longer or shorter lines of interest according to the vigor of this faculty, which is dependent upon individual experience. Isn't the question of reading without a purpose or with a purpose tied up with the desire for satisfying shorter and longer lines of interest?—whether it is instruction we want or inspiration, or amusement, or escape? We all have those periods when rhythms of different lengths are uppermost in our reading, and one or the other sort is dominant in the reading of each of us.

As we talk with people who say that they want background, we find that whole areas of the nature are dead. "I am not interested in this." "I never cared for that much." Sometimes they have nothing which looks like genuine interest. There has been a willingness to live a sort of larval existence, and the great adventure in reading is to bring back the curiosity and the enthusiasm which were there before the atrophy set in.

In talking with a man who said he had never been interested in anything—didn't know what was the matter with him—I found that when he was a boy he had had a passion for electricity. He tinkered with it by day and he dreamed about it by night. He studied plans and tried experiments, and one day his mother found him trying to get electricity in the back yard.

Thinking that he knew enough about it to accomplish his purpose, she was thoroughly frightened and set about to scare him sufficiently to make him desist. She was successful, and he had never wanted to touch it after that. But the clew to his reading interest was wrapped up in the subject, and once started he went of himself; he knew what he wanted. If you bring a reader to a fresh viewpoint and renew his belief in himself the effect is as startling as the break-up of an ice jam in a river when the spring comes to it suddenly. The man goes with a rush; nothing can stop him. He starts in quest of himself and finds that nature is a self-regulating energy and goes without help and can unearth its own clews everywhere. When a reader begins to explore, "life begins to be lived warily, inquisitively and loyally," and he is on the road to get a longer view of things.

Enjoyment follows wherever native interest is aroused and satisfied, and we come upon dead ends in reading whenever we force the interest. Perhaps a man starts with a good deal of enthusiasm and suddenly the spur is all gone; he read a book because he thought he ought to, or because it was considered good, or because he wanted to be thought educated, but the vital element was not there and the enthusiasm withered and died.

I asked a librarian who seemed to have solved her reading problem and was getting pure joy out of everything she read, how she managed to keep up with what is coming out. "Oh, I don't try; at least I don't think I do," she said. "I go after what I want." She had the method; she had found lines of reading to which she could give enthusiastic support.

As interest centralizes we begin to eliminate; and as it becomes quicker and keener our selection draws in and narrows, and we want to eliminate all but the books that give us real food; and as we go on, we eliminate more and more until we prefer to spend the time we have with the great spirits who illuminate life for us, the real voices.

A woman was berating Richard Kane for not having read D. H. Lawrence's latest novel. "Why, it has been out almost six months," she said. "Have you read Dante?" he returned. "Been out about six hundred years."

The desire to read books which have lived from generation to generation is a far cry from the attitude of this woman, and we have to begin where she is and feed the actual interests slowly. But we can help her to go on selecting until a definite plan or course of procedure begins to shape itself, and an end or general aim appears. We can keep the goal in sight.

There is much to be said in favor of a goal

in reading. It is not necessary, but it helps tremendously. Reading is fragmentary and illusive without it. A posited goal does not interfere in any way with our enjoyment of a given book any more than a destination in travel deters us from enjoying what we find en route. It really adds zest, for we have the desired end and many way stations to explore as well, and plan imparts an immediate elevation to the spirit. Our plans are our working hopes and among our chief treasures, and without system our reading "suggests a man swimming in the sea amidst the wreckage of his ship and trying to save his life by greedily clutching first at one spar and then at another." Courses or detailed plans are an aid in helping the imagination to keep the goal in sight, and there is a method, too, which accelerates our progress toward this goal.

Reading can become a mere excuse for not taking the trouble to think, a means of getting away from ourselves; and the more we read in this way the fewer are the traces left by what we have read. The mind becomes like a tablet crossed over and over with writing, and nothing is legible. Schopenhauer said, "Many learned persons have read themselves stupid." Without getting our own thoughts to work, what we have read cannot strike root, and is generally lost. A steel spring never free from the pressure of some foreign body at last loses its elasticity, and so does the mind if other people's thoughts are constantly forced upon it, and it is choked by overfeeding. We need to mix our own experience with the author's attitudes toward life, assimilating the ideas, setting our own rhythms going and making a new rhythm out of the combination. May Lamber-

ton Becker says, "For the high adventure of reading, you must develop not only sight but insight, and that comes slowly, partly by growth, partly by cultivation, and partly by the grace of God." If we thoroughly digest what we read, we will find ourselves putting the emphasis more and more upon quality, and realizing that we don't know much about the good until we begin to live with the good, as new and as fresh now as on the day it was made.

Stendahl has said that crystallization is impossible in the United States, meaning, I suppose, that there is nothing to crystallize—that we lack a certain deep sense. We are like Lily Bart in Mrs. Wharton's *House of Mirth*. "She was not aware of the fact that only the past could broaden and deepen our individual lives by tying them up mysteriously to all the accumulated human effort. The past had not crystallized slowly into the very drops of her blood; no image of an ancient house full of memories lingered in her eyes." If we are reacting quickly and superficially to the challenge of existence, allowing the trivial, the thin, the barren, the commonplace, to take precedence of permanent values; if we are slowly disintegrating under an environment which has become sterile for us, and are moving in shorter and shorter circles, perhaps we need to take stock. There is something gnawing at the habitual self-assurance of the American people; the seed is already sown and dissatisfaction is apparent everywhere. Are we doing our bit to "save the best of the old, tone down the extravagance of the new, and finally to make a beginning toward the highly difficult job of fitting the two together"?

"Books are a guide in youth, and an entertainment for age. They support us under solitude, and keep us from being a burden to ourselves. They help us to forget the crossness of men and things; compose our cares and our passions; and lay our disappointments asleep."

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

May 1, 1929

Editorial Forum

WASHINGTON is becoming more and more the Mecca for American as well as foreign travelers, for it is already the most beautiful of capital cities, and each year adds to its attractions and its interest for visitors. The A. L. A. Conference gives an opportunity to all members, especially those juniors who have never visited it, to acquaint themselves with the nation's capital, and through knowledge of it increase their appreciation of what their country means, not only in political government, but in the various welfare work into which we outreach. In accordance with recent practice, the general sessions will be comparatively few and will give place to the many sectional meetings which the complexity of library work now requires and to the mid-week free day as an opportunity for sightseeing. A first evening of welcoming speeches and the President's address, a joint session on Tuesday morning with the Special Libraries Association; a Tuesday evening giving occasion for renewing and making acquaintances; a Thursday morning with Washington authors to the fore, and a Saturday morning session with an address from President Keppel of the Carnegie Corporation which should keep members in Washington till the week-end, make up the general scheme and give opportunity for all the members to come at least in sight and sound of each other.

* * *

A SALIENT feature of the joint session will be Mr. Lydenberg's address on Special Libraries in Public Libraries, which happily emphasizes a connecting link between the public library and the business or other special library. It is a fitting opportunity of which Mr. Lydenberg avails himself to bring together thus the

two elements, and we may hope that the joint session will have a harmonizing influence. Doubtless the Special Libraries Association will welcome to its sessions those who are not members, and a separate meeting of business librarians as a section or round table of the A. L. A. will thus be rendered less important.

Washington, with its many special libraries in government departments and bureaus, is one of the most important fields in this class of library and research work, and there will thus be unusual opportunity for members of both Associations to come into contact not only with the special libraries of the government but with many others for which Washington has become the natural place, as the Bureau of Railway Economics, the libraries of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the American Peace Society and other national organizations outside the government field.

* * *

NOTABLE among the lesser meetings will be one which marks the very latest development of library extension service—radio broadcasting. This has become important alike within the local radius and in nation-wide relations. The best examples in the larger field have been the connection of the American Library Association with the League of Women Voters, during the campaign and since, in the non-partisan joint service of informing women citizens and new citizens, indeed the entire national audience, of principles and facts which they should know, and James G. McDonald's talks on foreign policy in which he always instances a list of books covering the special subject of his talk, and refers hearers to the local library. In the local field of broadcasting, associated with other wave lengths than those of the nation-wide broadcasters, a good deal of useful work has been done in interesting both children and parents in the facilities and delights of the children's room and the story-telling hour. Meetings of this section will be worth general attention because they give to every librarian who is in reach of a broadcasting center a new method of reaching not merely the eyes but the ears of a wider circle than other contacts make possible.

* * *

FROM the A. L. A. Conference a considerable number of American librarians will go to the International Meeting at Rome, and it may be

observed that, for those who can spend only a month in the journey, one of the finest of Italian steamers leaves New York on the first of June, returning to be in its American port before the fourth of July.

The list of the fifteen American delegates who are to be guests of the Italian government has been a difficult selection for the A. L. A. headquarters, to which the task was committed, but it now definitely includes three members, Messrs. Putnam, Richardson and Vance, from the Library of Congress; Dr. Locke as Canadian representative; Messrs. Bishop and Koch, who know the foreign field so well and who will be chairmen of sections; Keogh, who will be President of the A. L. A.; Belden and Bostwick, as chief librarians of great public libraries; Milam, as Secretary of the Association; three women representatives; Miss Matthews, librarian of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace at Washington; Miss Miller, as Editor of Publications at Headquarters, and Miss Winifred Gregory, Editor of the List of Serial Publications of Foreign Governments, at this time in Paris. Unfortunately, though their names are included on the current headquarters list, the latest word is that Mr. Dewey finds that the needs of "Lake Placid North" and "Lake Placid South" keep him in this country and Miss Eastman will not undertake the double journey of being present at Rome, as well as some months later at Cambridge, where she is one of the speakers at the International Conference on Adult Education. A score or more of other librarians, including Mr. Gerould of Princeton University Library, George W. Cole, the veteran bibliographer, and several branch librarians of Brooklyn and representatives of other library staffs, also definitely plan to be present so that the American delegation will probably be in the neighborhood of fifty. The number of sections has been increased from twelve to sixteen to provide for discussions of every phase of library and bibliographical activity. *Il Duce* will be represented through a government official, the Minister of Public Instruction, Signor Belluzzo, being slated as President of the general gathering, in which Dr. Colljin, Chairman of the International Committee, will act instead as proposer or premier, as it were, and Signor Fago will be the General Secretary. A comprehensive American exhibit, arranged by the A. L. A., has already gone forward, and a complete exhibit has been promised from Germany. It is to be hoped that a considerable delegation from England will be present who, with the Ameri-

can delegates, will make English, next to Italian, the leading language of the Meeting. But representatives from France, Germany, and other continental countries should be many, and far-away Russia and Japan will not be without representation.

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CENSORSHIP has been the subject of two important decisions in the past month, but in both the Massachusetts and the New York Legislatures no amendments to the existing law were made. The Massachusetts legislative committee after the hearings decided to report not the bill endorsed by the Massachusetts Library Club, but an amended version of the Sedgwick bill of last year. The Senate voted adversely on the report of the committee. Possibly because of over-confidence, the librarians of the State had not kept busy at the critical time. In New York State the legislative hearings at which Justice Ford and Mr. Sumner pressed their "clean books" bill, came to naught, and a bill prepared by Morris L. Ernst, author of *To the Pure*, intended to transfer responsibility from innocent booksellers to the publisher, was introduced too late for legislative action. Meantime, in Boston, the case of *An American Tragedy* was brought up squarely for court decision by the sale two years ago of a copy by a representative of the publishers to a Boston policeman. The publisher was convicted under the unamended law through the reading of specific passages to the jury on the strength of the judge's charge that under this law the general tenor of the book was immaterial, the only question being, "Are the pages read to you indecent and obscene and manifestly tending toward the corruption of youth?" The issue now goes before the Massachusetts Supreme Court under the existing law and its decision will have important influence on legislative action later. In New York, *per contra*, *The Well of Loneliness*, was brought into court on complaint of John S. Sumner of the Society for the Suppression of Vice and the case was heard by three justices in Special Sessions on a criminal charge against the publishers. Each justice read the book and they came to the unanimous decision that though the book dealt with "a delicate social problem," this was not so treated as to violate Section 1141 of the New York statute. This method happily avoided the publicity which in Massachusetts has advertised offending books throughout the country. The practice of libraries regarding these books differs widely, some circulating *An American Tragedy* without restriction, others make it a restricted book and still others do not circulate it at all.

The Washington Conference

Tentative Program

GENERAL SESSIONS

MONDAY, MAY 13, 8:30 P. M. FIRST GENERAL SESSION. AUDITORIUM.

Address of welcome—Judge Wendell Staford, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and Vice-President, Library Trustees, Public Library of the District of Columbia, Washington.

Address—William J. Cooper, Commissioner of Education.

Thirtieth Anniversary of Dr. Herbert Putnam as Librarian of Congress—R. R. Bowker, Editor, *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, New York City.

Address—Linda A. Eastman, President, American Library Association.

Following this Session, the delegates will have an opportunity to greet their friends in the lobby of the Exhibit Hall or on the ground floor of the Auditorium.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 10 A. M. SECOND GENERAL SESSION. AUDITORIUM.

Reports of Secretary, Treasurer and Committees.

Amendment to By-Laws—H. O. Severance, University of Missouri Library, Columbia, Chairman, Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

Honorary Corresponding Member—Recommendation from Council.

Joint meeting with Special Libraries Association:

Introductory Remarks—Linda A. Eastman, President, American Library Association, and Angus Fletcher, Vice-President, Special Libraries Association.

Special Libraries in Public Libraries—H. M. Lydenberg, Public Library, New York City.

Address—Dr. Julius Klein, Director, United States Department of Commerce.

Report on meeting of Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux, Oxford, England, September, 1928—Angus Fletcher, the British Library of Information, New York City.

Libraries for the Blind—Robert B. Irwin, Director, Bureau of Research and Education, American Foundation for the Blind, Inc., New York City.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 10 A. M. THIRD GENERAL SESSION. AUDITORIUM.

Literary program. Distinguished authors in or near Washington are being invited to appear on this program.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 10 A. M. FOURTH GENERAL SESSION. AUDITORIUM.

Adult education and reading courses—F. P. Keppel, President, Carnegie Corporation of New York, New York City.

A liberal education—Everett Dean Martin, The People's Institute, New York City.

Report of Committee on Resolutions.

Report of Committee on Elections.

Presentation of Officers-Elect.

ADULT EDUCATION INSTITUTE

Chairman, Matthew S. Dudgeon, Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.

Public Library, Washington, D. C.

Four sessions prior to the Conference.

Friday, May 10, 9:30 a. m. and 2 p. m.

Saturday, May 11, 9:30 a. m. and 2 p. m. Informal discussions of adult education topics under the leadership of J. T. Jennings and others.

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES SECTION

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2:30 P. M., AND WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M.

Topic: Relation of agricultural libraries to the Federal Department of Agriculture.

A. L. A. COUNCIL

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2:30 P. M., AND FRIDAY, MAY 17, 8:30 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

Committee on Committees—Ernest J. Reece, Chairman.

Committee on Salaries, Insurance and Annuities—C. H. Compton, Chairman.

Committee on Constitution and By-Laws—Institutional membership dues and chapter dues—H. O. Severance, Chairman.

New Honorary Member—Recommendation by Samuel H. Ranck, Public Library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

President, Frederick W. Schenk, University of Chicago Law Library; Secretary-Treasurer, Lucile Vernon, Association of the Bar, New York City.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 10 A. M. WASHINGTON HOTEL. ROOM D.

Addresses of Welcome: G. G. Kearney, United States Department of Justice Library; M. Alice Matthews, Carnegie Endowment for

International Peace Library; E. C. Goodwin, United States Senate Library; M. O. Price, United States Patent Office Library; Olive M. Jack, Library of Congress; Roland Williamson, Law Library of Congress and the Supreme Court; J. T. Vance, Jr., Library of Congress; Martha L. Gericke, State Department Library. Response: Alice M. Magee, Louisiana State Library, Baton Rouge.

Address by the President.

Reports of the Secretary-Treasurer.

Communications and announcements of committees.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 11:30 A. M.

Round Table. The expression by symbols of the pagination of books and their definitions. Theodore Lee Cole, president of the Statute Law Book Company, Washington, D. C., presiding.

Registration and payment of dues.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 8 P. M. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS MUSIC ROOM.

Joint meeting of the National Association of State Libraries, the Special Libraries Association and the American Association of Law Libraries.

The State Law Index. The 1925-1926 biennial: H. H. B. Meyer, Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress; Margaret W. Stewart, Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress. Discussion: Joseph Perkins Chamberlain, professor of Public Law, Columbia University, and chairman of the committee of the American Bar Association on Noteworthy Changes in Statute Law; J. T. Fitzpatrick, New York State Library, Albany, and others.

Dinner will be served in the Library of Congress Cafe.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M. WASHINGTON HOTEL, ROOM D.

Reports of Committees:

Index to legal periodicals and *Law Library Journal*—F. O. Poole, Association of the Bar Library, New York City. New members—J. P. Dillard, State Library, Trenton. Standard legal directory—A. S. McDaniel, Association of the Bar Library, New York City.

Round Tables:

Subject headings as used on the Library of Congress cards relating to law—Helen S. Moylan, College of Law Library, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, presiding; Law subject headings as used in the Law Library of Congress—Olive M. Jack. Problems in library cataloging and classification as encountered by a research student—Augustus Frederick Kuhl-

man, associate professor of Sociology, University of Missouri, Columbia.

Discussion.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2.30 P. M. WASHINGTON HOTEL, ROOM D AND A.

Committee Reports:

Loose leaf services—J. T. Vance, Jr., Bar Association Reports—A. J. Small; Memorials in Court Reports—G. E. Wire, Worcester County Law Library, Worcester, Mass.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 3 P. M.

Round Tables:

Problems of law school libraries—P. A. Hogan, Law Library, University of Missouri. The classification and arrangement of a school law library; its arrangement by subject practicable from the standpoint of the attendant, the teachers and others who may have access to the books; The use of the law library by particular groups, including use and supervision of special collections; the alumni, local bar, faculty and students engaged in special work as law review editors, etc.; The teaching of legal bibliography; The student assistant.

Problems of bar association and county law libraries—E. A. Feazel, Cleveland Law Library Association. What should be the basis upon which the annual charge to members is determined? What, if any, aid should such libraries receive from public funds, and in what manner should such aid be provided? What, if any, inducements should be offered to law students and those just admitted to the bar?

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 6.30 P. M.

Annual joint banquet of the National Association of State Libraries and the American Association of Law Libraries, at the Washington Hotel.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2.30 P. M. ROOM D.

Reports of committees; election of officers.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 3 P. M. ROOM D.

Round Table:

Educational requirements for librarians of law libraries and how library schools can assist—F. C. Hicks, Law Library, Yale University, presiding. Educational requirements for law librarians—F. C. Hicks; Educational and cultural background—A. S. McDaniel.

Discussion.

AMERICAN LIBRARY INSTITUTE

President, H. L. Koopman, Brown University Library, Providence, R. I.; Secretary, H. B. Van Hoesen, Princeton University Library, Princeton, N. J.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 10 A. M.

President's address: Our excuse for being—H. L. Koopman.

Adult erudition—E. F. Stevens, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The classification of knowledge; discussion of Henry E. Bliss's *The Organization of Knowledge and the System of the Sciences*—C. Martel, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

The burden of inter-library loans—F. K. Walter, University of Minnesota Library, Minneapolis.

"Best Book" lists a peril to our scholarly profession—H. B. Van Hoesen, Princeton University Library, Princeton, N. J.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 6.30 P. M.

Informal dinner and business meeting.

ART REFERENCE ROUND TABLE

Chairman, Gladys Caldwell, Public Library, Los Angeles, Cal.; Secretary, Elizabeth K. Steele, Public Library, Detroit, Mich.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2.30 P. M. RED CROSS BUILDING AUDITORIUM.

Reference work in the fine arts: a comparison—J. I. Wyer, New York State Library, Albany.

The library's part in the musical life of San Francisco—Jessie Fredericks, Public Library, San Francisco, Cal.

Developing community art appreciation—E. W. Browning, Public Library, Peoria, Ill. Report of Art Periodical Index Committee.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LIBRARY SCHOOLS

President, June R. Donnelly, Simmons College Library, Boston, Mass.; Secretary, Isabella K. Rhodes, School of Library Service, Columbia University, New York City.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 11 A. M.

Program to be announced.

BUSINESS LIBRARIES SECTION

Chairman, L. Elsa Loeber, Chamber of Commerce Library, New York City.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 8.30 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

Topic: Business and the community.

CATALOG SECTION

Chairman, Helen K. Starr, James J. Hill Reference Library, St. Paul, Minn.; Secretary, Grace O. Kelley, John Crerar Library, Chicago, Ill.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 8 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

Round table on classification for large li-

braries—A. F. W. Schmidt, George Washington University, Washington, D. C., presiding.

Classification news—C. W. Perley, Library of Congress.

The Harvard business classification scheme from the viewpoint of the Library of Congress classification—C. K. Jones, Library of Congress.

The Library of Congress classification as an aid to research—Dr. David A. Robertson, American Council on Education, Washington, D. C.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 9.30 A. M. CORCORAN ART GALLERY.

Committee Reports

The cataloging situation in 1929; some international aspects—J. C. M. Hanson, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

Recataloging the Vatican Library, an informal talk—C. Martel, Library of Congress.

Report of the Committee on Standardization of alphabetizing practice—C. M. Hastings, Library of Congress, chairman.

Factors in the determination of subject headings, papers by Mary Burnham, H. W. Wilson Company, and Julia Pettee, Union Theological Seminary Library, New York City; talks by Mary W. MacNair, Library of Congress, and Amelia Krieg, State University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 8 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

Round table for catalogers in small libraries—Alice L. Wing, McGregor Public Library, Highland Park, Mich., presiding.

Discussion of current problems, topics to be announced later.

Question box.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS' SECTION

Chairman, Carrie E. Scott, Public Library, Indianapolis, Ind.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1 P. M.

Outdoor luncheon, lawn of Wardman Park Hotel.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2.30 P. M.

Business session, Little Theater, Wardman Park Hotel.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M. WILLARD HOTEL—SMALL BALLROOM.

Contacts made for the library by the children's librarian—Esther Johnston, Public Library, New York City.

Discussion.

Story-telling—Mary Gould Davis, Public Library, New York City.

Presentation of the Newbery medal.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2.30 P. M.

Joint session of the Children's Librarians' Section and the School Libraries Section.

Chairman: Marjorie Van Deusen, Belmont High School Library, Los Angeles, Cal.; School Libraries Section; Carrie E. Scott, Public Library, Indianapolis, Ind., Children's Librarians' Section.

New methods of judging literature—E. D. Starbuck, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Reading interests of girls—Helen Ferris, Associate Editor, *The Atlantic Bookshelf*.

Books for the Lincoln Library, Mexico City—Report of committee, Annie Spencer Cutter, Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio.

COLLEGE AND REFERENCE SECTION

Chairman, Martin A. Roberts, Library of Congress; Secretary, J. A. McMillen, Louisiana State University Library, Baton Rouge.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2.30 P. M. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS MUSIC AUDITORIUM.

Some recent aids to research at the Library of Congress—F. W. Ashley, Library of Congress.

The uses of maps—Col. L. Martin, Division of Maps, Library of Congress. Discussion; examination of collections and apparatus of Division of Maps.

The Union Catalog as developed by the Rockefeller Fund—E. Kletsch, Library of Congress. Discussion; demonstration of the apparatus and of the Union Catalog.

Report of Committee on Classification of Personnel of University and College Libraries—C. H. Brown, Iowa State College Library, Ames, chairman.

Report of Committee on new Forms for College Statistics and Definitions—J. S. Fowler, Oberlin College Library, Oberlin, Ohio, chairman.

Report of Committee on Definition of Professional Assistant—S. B. Mitchell, University of California School of Librarianship, Berkeley, chairman.

Preparation and publication of an annotated catalog of a book collection for an undergraduate college. This is the subject of a resolution transmitted from the Conference of Eastern College Librarians through C. C. Williamson, Columbia University, New York City.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 8.30 P. M.

Round Table discussion led by F. H. Chase, Public Library, Boston, Mass. Topic: Public library reference problems.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2.30 P. M. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS MUSIC AUDITORIUM.

Foreign archive materials acquired in reproductions by the Library of Congress under

the Rockefeller Fund: Some interpretations—T. P. Martin, Division of Manuscripts, Library of Congress.

Discussion and demonstration of apparatus and collections.

The Archer M. Huntington Fund for the purchase of Hispanic material—C. K. Jones, specialist in Hispanic Literature; discussion and examination of collection.

Report of Committee on a List of Serial Documents of Foreign Governments—J. T. Gerould, Princeton University Library, Princeton N. J., chairman.

Report of Council Committee on the Supplement to the Union List of Serials—H. M. Lydenberg, Public Library, New York City, chairman.

Report of Committee on College and Reference Library Yearbook—C. B. Shaw, Swarthmore College Library, Swarthmore, Pa., chairman.

Doctoral dissertations as a problem in library administrations—F. L. D. Goodrich, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Discussion and examinations of Dissertation Collection.

COUNTY LIBRARIES SECTION

Chairman, Mrs. Loleta B. Fyan, Wayne County Library, Detroit, Mich.; Secretary, Margaret E. Wright, Cuyahoga County Library, Cleveland, Ohio.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 8.30 P. M. SUN PARLOR, WASHINGTON HOTEL.

The extent of county library service to rural schools—Editha Lathrop, Specialist in Rural Education, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

Contracts for county library service—Charlotte Templeton, Public Library, Greenville, S. C.

Reading for fun in Cape May County—Sarah Thomas, Cape May County Library, N. J.

Discussion.

Business meeting.

HOSPITAL LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE

Chairman, Perrie Jones, Minnesota Department of Public Institutions, St. Paul.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M. WALTER REED HOSPITAL READING ROOM.

"Vain was the chief's, the sage's pride!
They had no poet, and they died."—Pope—

Anne Louise Craigie, Edward Hines Junior Hospital, Maywood, Ill.

Bigger and better murders—Leslie T. Little, Waltham Public Library, Waltham, Mass.

Ports and personalities—Isabel DuBois, Director of Libraries of the Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Discussion.

Following the session lunch may be obtained at the Service Club.

In the afternoon the hospital will entertain those who attend the Round Table by a tour through the hospital and the gardens, an opportunity to meet the Commanding Officer, General Kennedy, General Ireland and General Cumming, combined with a cup of tea and a few words from those in charge.

Arrangements may be made with Isabel DuBois, Director of Libraries of the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., and Elizabeth Pomeroy, Hospital Libraries Medical Service, U. S. Veterans Bureau Hospital, if it is found advisable.

The Hospital Libraries Committee booth in the Auditorium will be Hospital Libraries Committee Headquarters.

LEAGUE OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONS

President, C. B. Lester, Wisconsin Free Library Commission, Madison; Secretary, Jane Morey, Missouri Library Commission, Jefferson City.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M. AUDITORIUM.

The county library; essentials of a county library law; campaigning for county library establishment.

Some financial problems of library service: Is direct aid essential in library extension? Does the public understand the present cost of adequate library service? What is the financial future of the small library?

Public recognition of library service: recent state-wide movements in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan and other states; national organizations interested in the extension of library service.

The plan for the classification of libraries in New York State.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2.30 P. M.

Roll call of states; recent news of legislation, appropriations, and plans for development.

Experience under the new postage rate on books.

Trends in library administration indicated under commission government in cities and city managers; civil service.

Experiences in school library development under commission direction.

Reports of Committees.

Report from the A. L. A. Committee on Library Extension.

Business meeting.

Each topic will be presented briefly by some speaker and then open for discussion by the membership.

LENDING SECTION

Chairman, Mae C. Anders, Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa; Secretary, Mildred W. Sandoe, Greene County District Library, Xenia, Ohio.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2.30 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

The Borrower's side of the loan desk—C. H. Joeckel, Department of Library Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Discussion: Jennie M. Flexner, Readers' Adviser, Public Library, New York City.

Speeding up the acquisition of new books. Ten minute talks by Eliza Buckner Marquess, Public Library, New York City; J. L. Wheeler, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.; F. B. Spaulding, Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa; Emma V. Baldwin, Editor of the *Blue List*, Baker & Taylor Company, New York City, and Whitney Darrow, sales manager, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS ROUND TABLE

Chairman, Carl Vitz, Public Library, Toledo, Ohio.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 8.30 P. M. WASHINGTON HOTEL, SPANISH GARDEN.

Extending the walls of the central library; a discussion of the possibilities of relieving pressure in an outgrown central building by storing books and placing some central activities in buildings at a distance from the central building—C. E. Sherman, Public Library, Providence, R. I.

When space is at a premium; a discussion of the possibilities of utilizing space in a crowded building more fully, and of what can be done in planning a new building to make possible later such a more intensive use of space—M. S. Dudgeon, Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.

Remarks on recent college and university library buildings—F. K. Walter.

LIBRARY COOPERATION WITH THE HISPANIC PEOPLES

Chairman, J. T. Vance, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M.

Cultural relations between the Americas—Dr. Leo S. Rowe, Director, Pan American Union.

The value of books as a medium of inter-American cooperation—Dr. Ricardo J. Alfaro, Minister of the Republic of Panama.

Some of the factors of bibliographical interchange—H. W. Wilson, H. W. Wilson Company, New York City.

Report of the chairman.

MOTION PICTURES AND OTHER VISUAL AIDS ROUND TABLE

Chairman, J. R. Patterson, Public Library, Chicago, Ill.; Secretary, Marilla W. Freeman, Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2.30 P. M.

The public library and the motion picture as fellow servants of the community—Hon. Carl E. Milliken, secretary, Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, former Governor of the State of Maine.

Tying up with the movies: Why? When? How?—Marilla W. Freeman, Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Display of motion pictures and an exhibition of visual material apparatus, designed to show the simplicity of library projection; discussion of lantern slides and stereographs in library circulation.—J. R. Patterson, Public Library, Chicago, Ill.

Discussion.

Speakers limited to fifteen minutes.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIBRARIES

President, H. E. Dunnack, State Library, Augusta, Me.; Secretary, Irma A. Watts, Pennsylvania Legislative Reference Bureau, Harrisburg.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2 P. M. SUN PARLOR, WASHINGTON HOTEL.

Address of welcome—H. H. B. Meyer, Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress.

Value of local history in the State Library—F. A. Godcharles, State Library and Museum, Harrisburg, Pa.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer—Irma A. Watts.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2 P. M.

Legislative reference—I. J. Bailey, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis. (Followed by Round Table discussion.)

Department of Archives—Georgia Osborne, Illinois Historical Society, Springfield. (Followed by Round Table discussion.)

Uniform organization for State library activities—Harriet M. Skogh, State Library, Springfield, Ill. (Followed by Round Table discussion.)

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 8 P. M. AUDITORIUM OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Joint meeting with the Special Libraries Association and the American Association of Law Libraries. This will be a Round Table discussion of the bi-annual index to State Legislation under the direction of H. H. B. Meyer.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M.

Uniform System of State Document Exchanges—H. J. Conant, Vermont State Library, Montpelier. (Followed by Round Table discussion.)

State author collection—Mrs. Ella May Thornton, State Library, Atlanta, Ga. (Followed by Round Table discussion.)

Membership in the National Association of State Libraries—Mrs. Clare Aushermann, State Library, Cheyenne, Wyo. (Followed by Round Table discussion.)

Business meeting.

Reports of committees.

Election of officers.

ORDER AND BOOK SELECTION ROUND TABLE

Chairman, Bess McCrea, Public Library, Cincinnati, Ohio.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 8.30 P. M. WILLARD HOTEL, SMALL BALLROOM.

Topic: Paving the roads to knowledge.

Books as paving material—May Massee, Children's Book Department, Doubleday Doran Company, Garden City, L. I., N. Y.

Private roads—Three five-minute talks by librarians in special fields.

Bridle paths—for pleasure only—C. B. Shaw, Swarthmore College Library, Swarthmore, Pa.

Highways and byways, with a primrose path or two: Highways—Leta E. Adams, Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio; Byways—Edith Crowell, Public Library, Perth Amboy, N. J.; Primrose paths—F. B. Spaulding, Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

PERIODICALS ROUND TABLE

Chairman, H. O. Severance, University of Missouri Library, Columbia; Secretary, Blake Beem, Boston Medical Library, Boston, Mass.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2.30 P. M.

Science in periodical literature—A. E. Bostwick, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.

Regional grouping of libraries: plan suggested for periodical purchasing areas—C. L. Cannon, Public Library, New York City.

Discussion: C. H. Brown, H. L. Koopman, J. A. McMillen, W. H. Powers, F. K. Walter, Lydia K. Wilkins, L. R. Wilson, P. L. Windsor and others.

Cooperative purchasing of periodicals in the Pacific Northwest—C. W. Smith, University of Washington, Seattle.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 8.30 P. M.

Religious periodicals in a general library—F. G. Lewis, Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa.

The proposed index to educational periodical literature—H. W. Wilson, H. W. Wilson Company, New York City.

Changing sizes of magazines, changing names and mergers—F. W. Faxon, F. W. Faxon Company, Boston, Mass.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SECTION

Chairman, Frances H. Kelley, Carnegie Library School, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Secretary, Flora B. Roberts, Public Library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 8.30 P. M.

Topic: Some teaching problems in the professional training of the librarian.

Some outstanding features of training class instruction—Julia Hopkins, Public Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ten-minute discussion.

Specialized cataloging in a one-year library school—Margaret Mann, Department of Library Science, University of Michigan Ann Arbor.

Ten-minute discussion.

Some vital considerations in the training of the school librarian—C. H. Milam, Secretary, American Library Association, Chicago, Ill.

Ten-minute discussion.

Brief comments on the first year's work of the Advanced Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.—G. A. Works, Advanced Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Ill.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS ROUND TABLE

Chairman, J. B. Childs, Library of Congress.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 8.30 P. M. WASHINGTON HOTEL SUN PARLOR.

Distribution of Government publications to depository libraries.—L. F. Schmeckebier, Institute for Government Research. Discussion: Harriet M. Skogh, Marguerite L. Gates, J. L. Rader and E. G. Swem.

Paper problems in connection with Government publications.—E. O. Reed, Technical Director, U. S. Government Printing Office.

PUBLICITY ROUND TABLE

Chairman, C. L. Cannon, Public Library, New York City; Secretary, Elizabeth O. Cullen, Bureau of Railway Economics, Washington, D. C.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M. AUDITORIUM.

Criticism of material—Leon Whipple, Associate Professor, School of Journalism, New York University, and Associate Editor, *Survey Graphic*. Material will be criticized from the standpoint of captions, layout, type, arrangement, and general suitability of the form to the content.

Publicity high spots of the year. Discussion of particularly successful publicity by audience.

RADIO BROADCASTING ROUND TABLE

Chairman, C. H. Brown, Iowa State College Library, Ames.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2.30 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

The value of library broadcasting of subject matter as distinct from book reviews and references to books—A. E. Bostwick, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.

Preparation for broadcasting of library programs—F. B. Spaulding, Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Broadcasting programs for children—Bertine E. Weston, LIBRARY JOURNAL, New York City.

Variations in broadcasting in a large city—Julia F. Carter, Public Library, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Broadcasting for rural communities—Ruth Galvin, Iowa State College Library, Ames.

The program will consist of verbal presentation and discussions rather than formal papers.

RELIGIOUS BOOK ROUND TABLE

Chairman, J. F. Lyons, Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill.; Secretary, Margaret T. Olcott, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2.30 P. M. CATHEDRAL LIBRARY.

Outstanding books on religion in 1928—F. G. Lewis, Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa.

Publicity for religious books—Elma A. Foster, Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Theological subject headings—Julia Petee, Union Theological Seminary, New York City.

Those attending the Round Table are invited to tea at the Cathedral.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION

Chairman, Marjorie Van Deusen, Belmont High School, Los Angeles, Cal.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2.30 P. M. WILLARD HOTEL, SMALL BALLROOM.

Joint session of the Children's Librarians and the School Libraries Sections.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2.30 P. M.

The library in the small high school—Edith A. Lathrop, Specialist in Rural Education, Bureau of Education, Department of Interior, Washington, D. C.

The training of school librarians—Edith L. Cook, School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

The proposed school library department at A. L. A. Headquarters—Harriet A. Wood, Supervisor of School Libraries, Minnesota.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2.30 P. M.

Winged horse sense—Joseph Auslander.

Business.

At this point the meeting will separate into small groups for informal discussion

Normal school and teachers college librarians—Anna V. Jennings, State Teachers College, Kearney, Neb., Chairman.

Private school librarians—Mabel F. Carnes, Peddie School, Hightstown, N. J., chairman.

Elementary school librarians—Mrs. Elizabeth Syle Madison, Director of School Libraries, Oakland, Cal., Chairman.

Junior high school librarians—Ruth Theobald, Montclair, N. J., Chairman.

Librarians of small high schools—Maud Minster, Altoona, Pa., Chairman.

Librarians of large high schools—Mrs. Frank H. Koos, Winston-Salem, N. C., Chairman. Subject: Human contacts in the library.

Librarians of educational libraries and of teachers departments in public libraries—Helen B. Lewis, Rockwell Branch Library, Cleveland, Ohio, Chairman.

SMALL LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE

Chairman, M. Louise Hunt, Public Library, Racine, Wis.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2.30 P. M. RED CROSS BLDG.

Comparative value of side lines in the small library; when to avoid side lines—Margery Quigley, Public Library, Montclair, N. J.; When to follow side lines—Flora B. Roberts, Public Library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Extension service to readers—Margaret Jackson, Hoyt Library, Kingston, Pa., and others.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

President, F. E. Cady, Nela Research Laboratory, Incandescent Lamp Department of General Electric Company, Nela Park, Cleveland, Ohio; Secretary, Rose L. Vormelker, Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 10 A. M. MAYFLOWER HOTEL

Address of welcome—Representative of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

Response to address of welcome—Florence Bradley, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York City.

Government research and business—L. F. Schmeckebier, Institute of Government Research.

Address of the President.

Report of the Secretary.

Report of the Treasurer.

Report of the Editor of *Special Libraries*.

Report of the Committee on Revision of Constitution.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2 P. M. MAYFLOWER.

Group sessions: Financial, commercial-technical, newspaper, insurance.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 4 P. M. MAYFLOWER.

Meeting, Federal Reserve librarians.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 10 A. M. AUDITORIUM.

Joint meeting with the American Library Association.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2 P. M. MAYFLOWER.

Group sessions: Newspaper, museum, commercial-technical, insurance.

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 8 P. M. MUSIC AUDITORIUM, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Joint meeting with the American Association of Law Librarians and the National Association of State Librarians. Subject: Index to state legislation.

Note: Dr. Meyer is making arrangements with the caterers of the Library of Congress Restaurant so that all attending this meeting may have dinner here at 6 p. m., preceding the meeting.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 10 A. M. MAYFLOWER.

Report of Classification Committee.

Report on Continuation Reading.

Report on Exhibits.

Report of Publications Committee.

Group reports.

Report of Nominating Committee.

Election of Officers.

Discussion of plans for 1929-30.

Unfinished business.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2 P. M. MAYFLOWER.

Group sessions: Civic-social, museum.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 6.30 P. M. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB.

Twentieth Anniversary Dinner.

Chairman, Elizabeth Wray.

Toastmaster: Col. C. Fred Cook, *The Washington Evening Star*, Washington, D. C.

Speakers: Senator Arthur Capper; Frederick J. Haskin, Correspondent, Washington, D. C.; Linda A. Eastman, Cleveland Public Library and President of the American Li-

brary Association; Angus Fletcher, Vice-President of Special Libraries Association.

It is hoped that each of the nine former Presidents of S. L. A. will be able to be present at this dinner.

TRAINING CLASS SECTION

Chairman, Mrs. Addison Parker, Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa; Secretary, Nora Crimmins, Public Library, Chattanooga, Tenn.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 8.30 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

Content and method of teaching book courses—presented in a paper from Helen E. Haines, Pasadena, Cal. To be read by F. B. Spaulding, Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Discussion: Carl B. Roden, Julia A. Hopkins and Helen Harris.

What is the most practicable method of training assistants in the small and medium sized library?—Elizabeth M. Smith, Public Library, Albany, N. Y.

Discussion.

Business meeting.

TRUSTEES SECTION

Chairman, Charles Cassel, President of the Board of Trustees, Public Library, Connersville, Ind.; Secretary, Mrs. Grace H. Price, Public Library, West Lafayette, Ind.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 8.30 P. M. WASHINGTON HOTEL, SUN PARLOR.

The broad national vision—Charles Cassel.

Topic: Opportunities for library extension work with children—John B. Ferguson, Trustee of Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, Md.; rural library service—R. G. Williams, Trustee of Public Library, Winchester, Va.; large library reference service—W. G. Baker, Trustee of Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.

Reports of standing committees.

Appointment of committees.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2.30 P. M. AUDITORIUM.

Discussion. Topics: Organization; cooperation; county library work; how to make the Trustees Section of A. L. A. more effective.

Reports of committees.

Election of officers.

WORK WITH THE BLIND ROUND TABLE

Chairman, Mrs. Grace D. Davis, Public Library, Detroit, Mich.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 8.30 P. M. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS ROOM FOR THE BLIND

Progress in library service among the blind

—Amelia Hoyt, Acting Director of Braille, American Red Cross.

Discussion.

WORK WITH THE FOREIGN BORN ROUND TABLE

Chairman, Edna Phillips, Massachusetts Division of Public Libraries, Boston.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 8.30 P. M. WASHINGTON HOTEL, ROSE ROOM.

Reading as an aid to inter-racial understanding—Mrs. Florence B. Boeckel, Education Director, National Council for Prevention of War.

Massachusetts Division of Public Libraries work for foreign born readers—Edna Phillips. Discussion.

Last Minute Notes

THE Auditorium at Washington, D. C., where the majority of the meetings of the A. L. A. Conference will be held the week of May 13, will be found at the corner of 19th Street, New York Avenue and E Street, Northwest. In making the Auditorium headquarters for the Convention, several features have been arranged which will interest the membership in general. Registration, Information, Travel Committee, and Convention Post Office will all be located in the center of the Exhibit Hall. At one end of the Exhibit Hall temporary rooms are being built for offices of the Secretary, Personnel Division, Publicity, and one office to accommodate other headquarters personnel. Near the offices there will be a lounging area, which will be equipped with easy chairs, rugs, writing tables, etc., for the convenience of delegates. There will be also an opportunity for people to obtain light lunches in the Auditorium. Among the exhibitors Library Extension, League of Library Commission, Adult Education, A. L. A. Publications, School Libraries, Children's Libraries, Visual Education, Book Binding, Hospital Libraries, Religious Books Round Table will be represented, also a number of national organizations, such as the World Peace Foundation, Science Service, National Commission Parent-Teachers, National Child Welfare, etc.

After the first general session Monday night, there will be an informal gathering in the lounging area of the Exhibit Hall for those who wish to meet officers of the A. L. A. and their friends. The attendance register will be printed in the form of a tabloid newspaper, and will be distributed on the Wednesday of the Conference only to members who have registered. Donald Campbell, Haverhill, Mass., will be editor of the newspaper, which, besides the register, will contain news items, pictures, etc.

The May Forecast

A check list of books of general interest whose publication dates fall during the coming month

(Exact day of issue is given when known)

Art, Letters and Poetry

Lamb, Winifred. *Greek and Roman Bronzes*. Dial Press. \$6.
The Filastrate of Boccaccio. Trans. by Nathaniel E. Griffin and Arthur B. Myrick. University of Pennsylvania Press (1st). \$7.
Letters of Voltaire and Madame Du Duffand. Trans. by R. Aldington. (Broadway Library of 18th Century Literature). Bremtano's (6th). \$4.
Feuchtwanger, Lion. "Pep." Viking Press. \$2.50.
O'Flaherty, Liam. *The Mountain Tavern*. Harcourt, Brace. \$2.50.
Tinker, Chauncey Brewster. *The Good Estate of Poetry*. Little, Brown (11th). \$2.50.

Biography

Guerin, Thomas. *Caps and Crowns of Europe*. Louis Carrier. \$3.50.
Hart, William S. *My Life—East and West*. Houghton, Mifflin. \$4.
May, J. Lewis. *Cardinal Newman*. Dial Press. \$5.
Muir, Edwin. *John Knox*. Viking Press. \$3.50.
Nuzhivin, Ivan. *Rasputin*. Knopf (3rd). \$6.
Tate, Allen. *Jefferson Davis, Leader of the South*. Minton, Balch. \$3.50.
Taylor, G. R. Stirling. *English Political Portraits of the 19th Century*. Little, Brown (11th). \$3.

Economics and Politics

Aver, Leslie James. *Cases on Business Law*. Prentice, Hall.
Heggson, Noble Foster. *Epochs in American Banking*. John Day (9th). \$5.
Phillips, Ulrich B. *Life and Labor in the Old South*. Little, Brown (11th). \$4.
Plekhanov, George V. *Fundamental Problems of Marxism*. International Publishers. \$1.50.
Vance, Rupert B. *Human Factors in Cotton Culture*. University of North Carolina Press (15th). \$3.
Williams, Sir John Fischer. *Chapters on Current International Law and the League of Nations*. Longmans, Green. \$10.

Fiction

Baring, Maurice. *The Coat Without Seam*. Knopf (17th). \$2.50.
Bedel, Maurice. *The Count in the Kitchen*. Viking Press. \$2.50.
King, Rufus. *Murder by the Clock*. (Crime Club). Doubleday, Doran (17th). \$2.
Lowndes, Mrs. Belloc. *One of Those Ways*. Knopf (3rd). \$2.50.
Lutz, Alma. *Emma Willard: Daughter of Democracy*. Houghton Mifflin. \$4.
Nason, Leonard H. *The Man in the White Slicker*. Doubleday, Doran (3rd). \$2.
Oppenheim, E. Phillips. *Mr. Billingham, the Marquis and Madelon*. Little, Brown (11th). \$2.
Stribling, T. S. *Strange Moon*. Doubleday, Doran (3rd). \$2.
Train, Arthur. *Illusion*. Scribner (1st). \$2.50.
Vaucaire, Michel. *Bolivar the Liberator*. Houghton Mifflin. \$3.50.
Venable, Clarke. *All the Brave Rifles*. Reilly & Lee. \$2.
Verona, Guido da. *Mimi Bluette*. Dutton (1st). \$2.50.
Wallace, Edgar. *The Murder Book of J. G. Reeder*. (Crime Club). Doubleday, Doran (13th). \$2.
Williams, Ben Ames. *Death on Scurvy Street*. Dutton (1st). \$2.
Wodehouse, P. G. *Man With Two Left Feet*. Doubleday, Doran. \$2.

History and Travel

Ellsberg, Lieutenant Commander Edward. *On the Bottom*. [The story of the raising of the S-51.] Dodd, Mead (1st). \$3.
Jaszi, Oscar. *The Dissolution of the Hapsburg Monarchy*. University of Chicago Press. \$3.
Sedgwick, Henry Dwight. *France, a Short History*. Little, Brown (11th). \$3.50.
Vernadsky, George. *History of Russia*. Yale (10th). \$4.
Bowen, Marjorie. *Holland*. Doubleday, Doran. \$3.
Gide, André. *Travels in the Congo*. Knopf (3rd). \$5.
Williams, Michael. *Pilgrim Place in America*. Holt. \$2.50.

Juvenile

Auslander, Joseph, and Hill, Frank Ernest. *The Winged Horse Anthology*. Doubleday, Doran (17th). \$3.50.
The Bonzo Books. McLoughlin Bros. (15th). 50c. each.
 Carter, Russell Gordon. *Three Points of Honor*. [A story of scouting.] Little, Brown (11th). \$2.

Religion and Philosophy

Poling, Rev. Dr. Daniel A. *Youth and Life*. Dial Press (15th). \$2.
 Potter, Charles Francis. *The Story of Religion*. Simon & Schuster. \$5.
 Russell, Elbert. *The Beatitudes*. Doubleday, Doran (17th). \$1.25.
 Durant, Will. *The Mansion of Philosophy, a Survey of Human Life and Destiny*. Simon & Schuster. \$5.
 Lippman, Walter. *A Preface to Morals*. Macmillan (1st). \$2.50.

Reprints

Dos Passos, John. *Three Soldiers*. (Sun Dial, 40). Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.
 Grayson, David. *Adventures in Contentment*. (Star Books, 103). Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.
 Maugham, W. Somerset. *The Trembling of a Leaf*. (Sun Dial, 39). Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.
 Smollett, Tobias. *Peregrine Pickle*. Illus. by Alexander King. John Day (9th). \$15.

Book Clubs for Children

IN 1926 a "Junior Monthly Book Service," having among its judges Angelo Patri, John Farrar, and Thornton Burgess, made a feeble attempt to get under way. The "Service" expired almost before starting and for two years there were no attempts at forming similar clubs. Last fall, however, the idea of children's clubs apparently got into motion again among various club-formers. The first club to make its appearance was "The Junior Book Club," sponsored by the Junior League. Selections from the Junior League have been going out regularly now for about six months. Books are chosen by a reading committee of which Dhan Gopal Mukerji is Chairman, and Padraig Colum, Anne Lyon Haight, Lydia Chapin Kirk, and Louise Seaman are members. Three classes of readers are catered to, books being chosen for each class.

Another book club for younger readers,

Stewart, Donald Ogden. *Perfect Behavior*. (Star Books, 102). Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.
 Wylie, Elinor. *The Venetian Glass Nephew*. (Sun Dial, 38). Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.

Miscellaneous

Ashton-Wolfe, H. *Crimes of Violence and Revenge*. Houghton, Mifflin (3rd). \$2.50.
 Bear, F. E. *Theory and Practice in the Use of Fertilizers*. John Wiley (15th).
 Duer, Caroline. *Vogue's Book of Brides*. Doubleday, Doran. \$3.
 Goldring, Douglas. *People and Places*. Houghton Mifflin. \$3.
 Groves, Ernest R. and Gladys H. *Wholesome Parenthood*. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.
 Hitchcock, F. H., ed. *The Building of a Book*. R. R. Bowker Co. \$3.
 Ladewick, Ester. *High School Scholarships for Children of Working Age*. University of Chicago Press. \$2.
 Mayo, W. F. and C. H., and Others. *Collected Papers of the Mayo Clinic and the Mayo Foundation*. W. B. Saunders (15th).
 Neilson, William Allan. *Education of the Modern Girl*. Houghton Mifflin. \$3.
 Pillsbury, W. B. *The History of Psychology*. W. W. Norton & Co. (31st). \$3.
 Robson, E. I. *Wayfarer in the Pyrenees*. Houghton Mifflin. \$3.
 Walker, Lydia Le Baron. *Homecraft Rugs*. Stokes. \$4.

"The Children's Book Club, Inc." has been formed at 1 Park Avenue, New York. Gordon Volland is the chief sponsor for this enterprise and with him as judges are M. V. O'Shea, Mabel Louise Robinson, Louise M. Terman, and Elma A. Neal. This academic array will select books for three groups of children.

"Selected Books for Juniors, Inc." is the title of another new club from 80 Lafayette Street, New York. John Hadcock is heading the club. Angelo Patri, Harford Powel, Jr., Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt, and Professor Mabel Robinson comprise the judges.

The Junior Literary Guild follows its parent, The Literary Guild of America, in methods, procedure, and advertising. This new children's book club caters to children of two age groups: 8 to 12 years in the first group, and 12 to 16 years in the second. The second group is subdivided into books for boys and for girls.

Book Reviews

THE BOOKMAN'S MANUAL. By Bessie Graham. 3rd Edition, Revised and Enlarged. Bowker 1928. \$4.00.

Like many another occupation, the job of the librarian today is more effectual and more satisfying than it was a generation ago, because of the improved tools which he has to work with. Among the small group of indispensables has come to be the *Bookman's Manual*, of which a new revision has just appeared. This tool has already proved its usefulness to the book selector, to the reference worker, to the reader's adviser, to library school instructor and student, as well as to the librarian of the small library, who must be all things to all men; and the library profession is the debtor to Miss Graham for its compilation.

The new book contains about twenty per cent more material than the former one, principally additions to the already existing chapters—new names, new titles, new comment, and in some cases new groupings; it includes items published to the end of 1928. Occasional names have been dropped, as in the chapters on contemporary poetry. One new chapter, devoted to bibliography, is an expansion of material formerly included in the chapter on a bookseller's library. In it are considered the major American and some English tools in trade and subject bibliography. More stress is laid, too, on the bibliographical helps at the beginnings of chapters throughout. Two conspicuous changes in editorial handling are noted: the questions which formerly followed each chapter are in this edition entirely omitted; and prices are now given for all items listed.

Use of the book to the greatest degree of effectiveness depends on the user's familiarizing himself with the general plan followed, and the division of material into broad subjects. This is true especially for library workers, who are likely to take the divisions of the Decimal Classification for granted; those divisions are to some extent departed from here. As is inevitably the case, when a book follows a classified arrangement, the user questions occasionally the grouping made by the compiler. It comes as a surprise to find Stephen Crane, who died in 1900, and Frank Norris, who died in 1902, listed as contemporary novelists. Cellini's *Autobiography* is discussed at some length in the chapter on Autobiography and Journals, but no mention of it is made in the chapter on Art, where under Cellini only Symonds' Life is listed.

In many cases all of a writer's books are

brought together in one entry, although those books may represent work in different fields. Adequate cross references are not in every such case provided; for example, all of Elinor Wylie's work is listed under her entry as a novelist, and no mention of her is found in the section devoted to American women poets. Again, in the second edition, John Erskine was considered as an essayist, and all of his work was listed there; he has now moved from that environment and joined the novelists, leaving no new address in the form of a cross reference.

One wonders, too, at editorial emphasis; why is a paragraph given to comment on Anne Douglas Sedgwick's *Tante*, stressing its great popular success, and no comment made on *The Little French Girl*?

But the library profession cannot fail to be greatly helped by the expansion and revision of this valuable tool, supplementing as it does, the *A.L.A. Catalog* on the one hand and the *United States Catalog* on the other.

Not only does the new edition of the book contain much new material, but the usefulness of the whole volume has been materially increased by a more adequate plan of indexing. In the old edition the index was only one by authors; in the new, the plan has been amplified to include entries for titles of books of composite authorship which may be better known by title than by name of editor. Names of series are also entered, and subjects which are treated as sub-sections of chapters. These entries of the secondary type are distinguished from the author entries by italic type.

Early copies of the new edition were issued with an author index which was not satisfactory to the publishers and they announce that all future printings will have the amplified index, and copies of it will be sent on request to all of those who purchased the early copies of the book.

As a result of the use of a lengthened page and a more condensed type face, there is very little increase in bulk; changes in typographical treatment and indentation effect a marked improvement in legibility; facility in turning readily to the page wanted is increased by the use of a harder finished paper, with all edges trimmed. Along with these changes in internals, comes a corresponding change in outward appearance; the new *Bookman's Manual* is attractively bound in bright blue buckram lettered plainly in gold.

JOHN S. CLEAVINGER,
School of Library Service, Columbia University.

In the Library World

Non-Fiction Demanded in Louisville

NOTHING should be more encouraging to the community, not to mention the librarian and the trustees of the Louisville Free Public Library, than the statement contained in the report of the librarian that non-fiction is more in demand than fiction among the patrons of that institution. The reason this should be encouraging is that the true function of a library is not to amuse; it is in fact a repository of information to be used," stated the *Herald-Post* of Louisville, Ky., for last week.

Savannah, Georgia

THE annual report of the Savannah Public Library is issued in the form of a story of the year. During the year 248,099 volumes were lent for home use, a gain of 16,230 volumes over the previous year. A slightly smaller number of new borrowers registered than last year, although the total number of active borrowers is larger. Of the 14,118 questions coming to the library during the year, 10,318 were answered at the main library, 1,682 from downtown branch, and 2,118 from Hodgson Hall.

Evanston, Illinois

CLOSE to 50 per cent of the residents of Evanston make use of public library service, states the librarian in her annual report for 1928. An average of 36 books per family, or seven per capita, was withdrawn in 1928. The increase in circulation over 1927 amounted to 52,464. In 1918 only 146,551 books were loaned to a population of 37,231, but in 1928 464,300 books were loaned to a population of 66,000.

Jones Library at Amherst

THE record of circulation of books, the most important of any function of any public library, shows that 76,600 books and magazines were loaned from the main library at Amherst during 1928. In addition 1,848 pictures were borrowed by teachers and others, 1,308 deposit books were used, and 2,642 borrowers were registered. In addition, the North Amherst Library reports an increased circulation of 12,468 books and periodicals and a registration of 325 borrowers.

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

THE report of the work of the Millicent Library of Fairhaven, Mass., for the year 1928 shows that in the thirty-sixth year of service a larger increase than ever before in the usefulness of the library is recorded. Statistical summaries of the circulation work show that 107,342 volumes have been loaned. Of this circulation 32,101, or 29 per cent, is juvenile. The gain in book circulation is 12,029, or over 1,000 volumes per month, with a percentage gain of 12.6. The following additions are noted: 1,002 pictures circulated, 77 pamphlets, 1,180 duplicate pay books, and 3,603 books from the High School library. With these additions, the total is 113,204. The registration for the year was 1,376 persons registered, with a total for the three years' period of 3,950, or approximately 36 per cent of the population.

Worcester, Massachusetts

HAD the new Billings Square Branch Library been opened a month earlier, the total circulation for the Worcester Public Library for the year would have exceeded the million mark for the first time. As it is, the figures run to 995,965, showing a gain over last year (without reckoning Billings Square at all) of 34,121, or about 3 per cent. In addition to a gratifying circulation at the new branch of over 31,000 in less than three months, the library has received a special appropriation of \$10,000 from the Mayor toward a permanent site or building for a library branch on the east side.

Beverly, Massachusetts

THE annual report from the Beverly Public Library shows a circulation of 239,676 volumes during the past year, a gain over the preceding year of 27,605. There are in all 9,571 names registered, a gain of 1,681 during the last year. The library serves more than one-half the whole number of inhabitants in the city, with an average of 10.56 books for each person. For three years the library has been conducting a Poetry Class, but this year a new angle has been tried. As an experiment, it was suggested that the pupils try to write poems. Nothing was expected of this class more than a stimulation of reading interest, but some of the verses produced have been worthy of notice.

Among Librarians

The President of the Library Association of England for 1929-1930 will be Lord Balneil, the son of the Earl of Crawford. Lord Balneil is the Chairman of the Appeal Committee for the endowment of the School of Librarianship and has identified himself in a practical manner with the cause of librarians.

Clara M. Barnes, Wisconsin '19, has resigned as a Branch Children's Librarian in the system of the Seattle Public Library, and on June first goes to the Public Library of Boise, Idaho, as Children's Librarian.

Emelyn M. Barret, Pratt '24, has just been elected Librarian of the Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury, Conn., where, since January 1925, she has been Head of the Circulation Department.

William H. Carlson, New York State Library School, 1926, has resigned from the position of Supervisor of Departmental Libraries at the University of Iowa to become Librarian at the University of North Dakota.

Ruth E. Carnerross, Wisconsin '26, who was in the Catalog Department of the University of Minnesota accepted a position on the staff of the Detroit Public Library, and assumed her new duties on April 15.

Martha E. Cutler, Librarian of the Peterborough Town Library, Peterborough, N. H., and first Vice-President of the New Hampshire Library Association, has been appointed President to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Helen Cushing, who has left New Hampshire to accept a position as cataloger in the American Library, Paris.

Catherine Dean, Western Reserve '25, was recently married to John J. Gosney, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Bernice E. Doran, Wisconsin '25, who has been on the staff of the Public Library, Muskegon, Mich., since her graduation, on the first of February went to the Public Library, Evansville, Ind., as Librarian of the East Side Branch.

Jean L. M. Fuller, Pratt '28, formerly on the staff of the Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore, has been appointed First Assistant Cataloger in the American Library in Paris.

Elizabeth Gaston, Wisconsin '26, joined the staff of the New York Public Library last fall. During the winter she was an assistant in the Children's Department of the Fort Washington Branch.

Dorothy C. Heins, Wisconsin '12, Librarian of the Public Library, Aberdeen, S. D., was recently appointed by the Governor as a Member of the South Dakota Library Commission.

Dr. Leicester B. Holland of Philadelphia has been appointed Chief of the Division of Prints at the Library of Congress. The position carries with it the incumbency of the Chair of Fine Arts established by the Carnegie Corporation. He will be the first to hold the chair.

Mrs. Evangeline Kochl, Western Reserve '20, is now senior assistant in the Riverside Branch, Public Library, Indianapolis.

Ethol M. Langdon, Librarian of Nebraska Wesleyan University, was married March 28 to Professor William George Bishop, head of the Department of Geography of Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Mary A. Lowell, Wisconsin '19, has recently accepted the Librarianship of the Michigan Bell Telephone Co., Detroit.

Rosalie Mackenzie, Pratt '24, Librarian of the Leicestershire, England, County Library, was married at Easter to Clifford Kent Wright, Deputy Town Clerk of Loughborough.

Martha B. Merrell, Wisconsin '27, resigned as head of the Reference Department, Oshkosh Public Library, on April 1. After two months of travel in California, she goes to the Racine Public Library as head of the Adult Department.

Elizabeth Nesbitt, Pittsburgh '22, has resigned as Librarian of the State Normal School, Clarion, Pa., and will join the faculty of Carnegie Library School as an instructor in library work with children.

Edith M. Norton, Wisconsin '07, is Librarian of the School of Medicine of the University of Pittsburgh. The work includes group talks to first year medical students on the resources of the Library. Miss Norton recently contributed an article on these group talks to the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association.

Mary Proctor, Simmons '24, was married on March 16 to William Fuller King of West Newton, Mass.

Alice H. Simpson, Western Reserve '27, has recently become the reference assistant in the Public Library of Akron, Ohio.

Eleanor M. Witmer, N. Y. P. L. '20, Supervisor of Libraries in the Denver Public Schools, has resigned to accept the position of Associate Librarian at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Edith I. Wright, Pratt '24, formerly Head Cataloger of the Evansville, Ind., Public Library, has accepted the position of Reviser in the Cataloging Department of the Newberry Library in Chicago.

Opportunities

No charge is made to LIBRARY JOURNAL subscribers for insertion of notices in this department.

College graduate with library school training and over ten years' experience in West and Middle West public libraries desires executive position in or near New York City. Head of small library preferred. Available September 1. J-20.

College graduate with library school training desires position for summer. Three years' experience in teaching in senior high school and five years of library experience in a junior high school. Available June 21. J-19.

Graduate, University and library school is eager for experience in an Eastern library. Age 25. Two years' experience as assistant in public library in Washington (State). One year teaching experience. Particularly interested in cataloging in a school or special library. Executive ability, good references. J-18.

Library school graduate with ten years' experience, now directing recataloging of college library, desires position. Prefers organizing or cataloging. J-15.

Trained librarian with experience in reference and college library wishes change in location. Near New York or the South preferred. J-17.

Wanted, by library school graduate with five years' experience in large college library, a month or more of work during Summer months. J-16.

Experienced Assistant Reference Librarian with B.A. degree and library school diploma, also several years' experience as a teacher, desires to make a change. Position desired in college or public library in the vicinity of Grand Rapids or Detroit. Available July 1. J-14.

Library school and college graduate with teaching and cataloging experience, seeks position in New York State. Permanent school library license. Box 197, Pulteney, N. Y.

Wanted—in a Western city of 18,000 inhabitants, children's librarian who has had experience and training in this phase of library work. Write, giving education, experience and salary expected. J-11.

College graduate with library school training desires a position in or near Philadelphia the latter part of September. Has three years' experience, one in a public library and two in a special library. Organizing work preferred. J-12.

Cataloger Available—Library school training and experience in charge of cataloging in public school and special libraries. H-10.

Classifier and cataloger, now in charge of cataloging in medium sized library in the East, desires similar position in the Far West. Has several years' experience, three years of college and two years of library school training. Available September 1. H-14.

Librarian of a Southern college would like to work in a Northern library after June 1. J-13.

Librarian with six years' experience desires position in reference or circulation department. Will do substitute work. H-13.

Librarian with wide organizing experience, familiar with both adult and children's work, would like to make a change. Would consider branch librarianship or extension work in any locality. H-12.

Wanted—Position in college or university library. M.A.; library school diploma; general library experience, 4 years; cataloger, 6 years. H-15

Librarian, college graduate, library school training with sixteen years of experience in public, high school, and college libraries wishes position of reference or administrative nature in college, large public, or special library. Eastern states preferred. Available September 1. H-16

Charles Alexander Nelson celebrated his ninetieth birthday on April 14 at his daughter's home in Mt. Vernon, still at work, as he has been for more than three score and ten years of library service. He is still busy in his translation of Johann Schoepflin's *Vindicta Typographicae*, nearing the completion of this great task. His library friends wish that his tenth decade may be crowned with helpfulness and happiness as have been those that are past.

* * *

THE CALENDAR

- May 5-8—California Library Association, Annual Meeting at Sacramento, Cal.
- May 4-11—National Congress of Parents-Teachers, Washington, D. C.
- May 9—International Book Exhibit, Seville, Spain.
- May 13-15—Special Libraries Conference, Washington, D. C.
- May 13-18—A. L. A. Conference, Washington, D. C.
- May 20—Book Fair, Barcelona, Spain.
- May 20-23—American Association for Adult Education, Annual Meeting at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.
- May 29—Annual Conference, Maine Library Association, Bangor, Me.
- June 6—Rhode Island Library Association at Westerly.
- June 15-19—World Congress of Libraries and Bibliography, Rome.
- June 25-26—Continued Conferences at Venice.
- Aug. 22-29—Fourth Annual Conference, World Conference on Adult Education, Cambridge, England.
- Aug. 29-31—Pacific Northwest Library Association, Annual Meeting at Spokane, Wash.
- Sept. 24-25—Vermont Library Association, Annual Meeting at Springfield, Vt.
- Oct. 7-12—New York Library Association, Annual Meeting at Lake Placid, N. Y.
- Oct. 16-18—Illinois Library Association, Annual Meeting at Urbana, Ill.
- Oct. 17-19—Missouri Library Association will meet at Jefferson City, Mo.
- Oct. 23-25—Indiana Library Association, Annual Meeting at Gary, Ind.
- Nov. 7-8—Indiana Library Trustees Association will meet at Indianapolis, Ind.

Censorship in New York and Boston

ON April 18 a Boston jury found Donald S. Friede, New York publisher, guilty of violating the Massachusetts statute by the sale of Theodore Dreiser's *An American Tragedy*. Theodore Dreiser took the stand in Boston earlier in the week in the Superior Court in defense of his book. Attorney Arthur Garfield Hays made repeated attempts to get the entire contents of the two volumes in evidence, instead of selected excerpts from the first volume, but he was blocked by the District Attorney's objections, and when Mr. Dreiser attempted to describe the work and to tell the story briefly he was not permitted to. Justice George Hays finally ruled that portions of the book, which had direct reference to the passages in the complaint, might be introduced. In his charge to the jury Judge Hays said: "The only question before you is, Are the pages read to you and set forth in the amendment to the complaint impure, indecent and obscene, and manifestly tending toward the corruption of youth? If that is so, it is not necessary to find that the words alone are indecent. You must determine if the thoughts aroused by those words are offensive to morality and to chastity and manifestly tend to corrupt youth." It will be remembered that the bill to revise the Massachusetts penal code so that a book would be judged as a whole was defeated on April 1 in the Senate.

On April 19 Justices Salomon, Healy and McInerney in Special Sessions Court in New York City declared that the book, *The Well of Loneliness* by Miss Radclyffe Hall, although dealing with "a delicate social problem," was not published and sold in the City of New York in violation of the law against objectionable literature. The New York judges declare, "After a careful reading of the *entire* book we conclude that the book in question is not in violation of the law." The decision was handed down after ten days of deliberation by Justices Healy, Salomon and McInerney. The opinion read as follows: "The defendants are charged with violation of Section 1141 of the penal law in that they have sold and offered for sale the book known as *The Well of Loneliness*, which book it is alleged, is obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy and indecent, in violation of Section 1141 of the penal law. The book in question deals with a delicate social problem, which in itself cannot be said is in violation of the law. . . . After a careful reading of the book we conclude that the book is not in violation of the law, and each defendant is acquitted."

South Africa



The Government Travel Bureau of South Africa, in its endeavor to acquaint Americans with the beauties and wonders of South Africa, has prepared an exhibit of thirty beautiful rotogravure postcards. This set will be sent free to any librarian who will exhibit it. Interesting literature on South Africa will also be sent to supplement the exhibit.

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